



The “One Small Dog” of Maria Daines’ hit song is at lower right. (Hana Kifle)

Saving one small dog informs the world

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia—Resembling a skull buried up to the hollow eye sockets, the 70-year-old Italian fortification called Gido Washa stood for death from the day it was built.

Long after the last Italian troops left Ethiopia, after the last wood and metal parts of Gido Washa were blasted or burned, and only the concrete shell remained, it became deadlier than ever.

“For the last 20 or so years local people threw unwanted dogs into the pits, where they died of starvation,” Ethiopian/American physician Anteneh Roba e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on June 25, 2007. As founder of the Amsale Gessesse Memorial Foundation, begun to honor his deceased mother, Roba was in Ethiopia to help the Homeless Animal Protection Society to expand their street dog sterilization and vaccination project.

The Gido Washa situation came to light through an exposé published by the Ethiopian magazine *My Fashion*. Roba offered to pay the costs if HAPS could rescue and care for any dogs they might find alive there.

HAPS cofounder Efrem Legese

had heard of Gido Washa long ago while growing up in Addis Ababa, but like many other Ethiopians he thought it surely had been demolished or closed.

Two similar fortifications linked to the skull-like pillbox had been filled with debris and mud by years of dumping and flooding, but the third remained open.

Peering through dark openings meant for machine-guns, Legese saw a
(continued on page 8)

Global warming

Animals at risk from drought in Zimbabwe, flooding in India and Bangladesh



Zimbabwean wildlife in drought. (Johnny Rodrigues)

HARARE, GUWAHATI, DHAKA—“Climatic change” does not really describe the impact of global warming on Zimbabwe, northern and eastern India, and Bangladesh.

Zimbabwe has always consisted largely of dry forest and high desert, plagued by frequent drought. Heavy monsoons have often battered northern and eastern India. The floods of the past three summers just accentuated the trend.

Bangladesh, 90% of which lies 10 meters below sea level, was inundated in 1988 and 1998, as well as 2007.

The disasters of 2007 afflicting much of Zimbabe, India, and Bangladesh are the result

not of climatic change but of climatic norms intensified by global warming to extremes beyond the capacity of people and animals to adequately prepare.

In Zimbabwe the crisis is amplified by inflation running at an estimated 10,000%, crime, civil unrest, and the collapse of the government into “kleptocracy,” as the *New York Times* described it, in which insiders in the Robert Mugabe regime seize whatever they can, while they can.

“There is again a critical shortage of fuel to pump water for the animals in Hwange National
(continued on page 11)

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

July/August 2007
Volume XVII, #6

+ Monkey-laundering?

HONG KONG—Is a small amount of monkey-eating in southern China covering for a large amount of monkey trafficking from the wild to U.S. labs?

Among the reasons for vigilance:

- Monkey-trapping and smuggling appear to be increasing throughout Southeast Asia, allegedly for Chinese markets. Yet reports from within China indicate no rise in monkey consumption, amid increasing efforts to suppress eating contraband wildlife.

- U.S. lab use of nonhuman primates has more than doubled, from 25,534 in 2002 and 25,834 in 2003, to 54,998 in 2004, and 57,531 in 2005, the latest year for which the USDA Animal & Plant Inspection Service has complete data.

- Increased Chinese monkey exports to the U.S. appear to account for more than half of the increased U.S. use, but the numbers of monkeys reportedly in Chinese breeding colonies are not nearly enough to produce the numbers that U.S. users are buying.

U.S. law prohibits importing wild-caught monkeys for research. Both crab-eating and rhesus macaques, the most often imported species, are protected in China. Neither may be legally hunted or captured from the wild.

Yet macaque dealers in southern China have emerged—with government help—to fill the U.S. lab demand.

Even if the Chinese dealers have enough macaques now to produce the volume sold, where did they get their breeding stock?

Imports for consumption may be one method. A monkey who has purportedly been eaten could disappear from any existing

records, but perhaps could be resurrected as “captive-bred,” therefore legal for use in breeding or export.

Questionable numbers surfaced in a July 7, 2007 report about the Chinese monkey business by Stephen Chen of the *South China Morning Post*.

Xie Liping, owner of the Guangxi Weimei Bio-Tech Company in Nanning, “runs one of the biggest primate breeding centres in Guangxi, a region that produces half of the nation’s monkeys used for experiments,” Chen wrote. “She started four years ago with fewer than 100 crab-eating macaques and now has more than 12,000. When a huge expansion project—covering the equivalent of 31 soccer fields—is completed next year, 50 barracks wrapped in shiny steel bars will be home to 20,000 monkeys.”

But “fewer than 100 crab-eating macaques” cannot breed up to 12,000 in four years, or 20,000 in five years. A crab-eating macaque does not reach estrus until age four, and bears only one infant per year.

Thus, even if most of Xie Liping’s macaques were females, they could at most have increased to about 500. If Xie Liping has 12,000 now, most must have been bought from other sources.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service records show that Guangxi Weimei Bio-Tech sold 600 monkeys to the U.S. in 2006. That might be plausible, but would leave no surplus for expanded breeding.

Xie Liping did not allow Chen to visit her breeding center, saying that her mon-
(continued on page 7)



Wussie. (Champa Fernando)

Pound seizure shocks Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka—Requisitioning shelter animals for laboratory use, the mostly banned and discredited practice called “pound seizure” in the U.S., is now reaching Asian awareness through the story of Wussie, a gentle former street dog.

Told first by Sri Lankan newspapers, Wussie’s story went global via the Hong Kong-based Asian Animal Protection Network. Scientific institutions and regulators in New Delhi, Mexico City, Cambridge, U.K., and Washington, D.C. were soon investigating their unwitting involvement.

Wussie is sole survivor of a series of surgeries on dogs directed by parasitologist R.P.V.J. Rajapakse. Rajapakse claimed to be seeking an herbal treatment for diabetes—a potentially lucrative field for scientific exploration, but far outside his usual field.

Related Champa Fernando of the Sri Lankan organization KACPAW in a May 30, 2007 complaint to the Sri Lanka Veterinary Council, “On 22 and 23 May 2007, Professor Rajapakse, head of the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at the University of Peradeniya, adopted three dogs from our shelter, saying that one would be for his

Gohagoda home and the other two for his wife’s home in Kiribathgoda. The three dogs were in perfect health. They had been spayed and vaccinated against rabies, parvo virus, and distemper.

“On 28 May 2007, we discovered to our horror that Rajapakse took them straight to the government veterinary hospital at Getambe, where extensive invasive surgery was carried out on all three dogs by Wasantha Kumara,” the hospital chief.

Wussie “was opened up, probed for a long time, and then stitched,” Fernando wrote. “The second dog apparently had her adrenal glands removed. She died the next morning. The third dog,” named Polly, “had her pancreas removed. We took the two surviving dogs back to our shelter,” Fernando said, “and obtained treatment for them from the veterinary faculty of the University of Peradeniya.”

Polly died under treatment.

Rajapakse was the only University of Peradeniya veterinary faculty member who was involved in the experimental surgeries, Fernando stated.

(continued on page 17)

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Editorials

ANIMAL PEOPLE goes to nine editions per year

Because of a drastic increase in U.S. nonprofit postage rates in May 2007, the cost of mailing our June edition instantly rose almost \$1,000. We will have to dig deeper into general operating funds to cover the postal rate hike, but have made a decision to try to reduce costs by scaling back our production schedule to nine issues of ANIMAL PEOPLE per year instead of ten. This way we hope to avoid increasing our subscription price, and to avoid raising our advertising rates substantially. Subscribers who have paid for ten editions will receive them, but all new subscriptions and renewals will be for nine editions a year.

At inception, ANIMAL PEOPLE determined that if we were going to make a real difference in how effectively the humane community responds to problems, we would have to reach the entire humane community with every edition—and we knew that the people and organizations most in need of our information tend to have the least resources with which to buy a subscription. Many organizations abroad—especially in the underdeveloped nations of Africa, Asia, and Latin America—simply could not buy a subscription, no matter what.

Accordingly, sending free subscriptions to animal charities and agencies worldwide

has always been an ANIMAL PEOPLE priority.

Distributing complimentary subscriptions to ANIMAL PEOPLE to every animal agency and charity in the world—currently more than 10,500—is by far the most costly item in our budget, but it is also fundamental to accomplishing our mission objectives. We have received some grant support that has helped to subsidize these subscriptions, though some of the costs have always come out of general revenues, including from donations and advertising.

We estimate the cost of providing free subscriptions to 6,800 U.S. animal groups in the coming year to be just over \$40,000 per year, for nine editions instead of ten. The cost of printing and mailing to the international list of approximately 4,000 animal groups in the coming year is estimated to be close to \$50,000 for nine editions. We had to reduce international mailings for some editions of the paper over the past year—deciding which geographical areas to cut based on the relevancy of content of particular editions. We may have to cut back on overseas distribution again, but we are always hopeful that our supporters will make funding available. If you can help with a donation for this purpose, we will be very grateful.

“Who gets the money?” feature is merged into expanded ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Charities

This belated July/August 2007 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE appears soon after publication of the ninth annual ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Charities—a 52-page handbook that took nearly three times as long as an edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE to complete.

Now evaluating 150 of the most prominent animal charities worldwide, The Watchdog Report was conceived as a supplementary reference for serious donors that could be assembled between editions of the ANIMAL PEOPLE newspaper. But The Watchdog Report long since outgrew that idea. Sold separately, at \$25 per copy, researching and updating The Watchdog Report has become a year-round project in itself, punctuated by the production phase, when we distill the information into the most compact format possible.

The Watchdog Report evolved out of “Who gets the money?”, the annual “financial page” on major animal charities that the ANIMAL PEOPLE team began publishing in early 1991, about 18 months before ANIMAL PEOPLE itself existed.

The first edition of “Who gets the money?” presented the budgets, assets, and top salaries paid by 24 U.S. animal charities, as abstracted from IRS Form 990 filings. The greater part of the job then was obtaining the Form 990 filings from a variety of sources including the charities themselves, the Internal Revenue Service, and state charities bureaus.

Though IRS Form 990 is supposed to be a public accountability document, many charities did everything they could to keep their filings from coming to light—for reasons that became evident in outraged donor response when we published the information.

Eventually most organizations learned that serious donors expect and reward accountability. Many of those we had the most difficulty with in the early years of producing “Who gets the money?” now post their Form 990 and other financial data on their own web sites, albeit usually after changes of management.

Over time, as well as expanding “Who gets the money?” to cover more than six times as many charities as we initially did, we added many more categories of data, in order to present more complete and accurate financial summaries. We compared organizations’ own claims about program spending with our own assessment, using a uniform accounting standard, and explained the standard. We added lines showing the salary norms for key positions, by charity size. We added explanatory text to help readers understand which numbers are most important, and published codes of ethics for charities and fundraisers to help clarify what we look for.

We also added financial data from foreign charities, much of it more difficult to collect and assess than IRS Form 990 filings. Obtaining the foreign data often requires teaching charity directors the whole concept of public accountability and how to categorize expenditures—but very few resist providing the numbers, and every year more foreign charities plead to be included.

By the time The Watchdog Report debuted, in 1999, “Who gets the money?” was already eating nearly half the news space in our December edition each year. Yet readers clamored for more. We were commonly asked for more information, in a more durable physical format, than the ANIMAL PEOPLE newspaper could provide.

The Watchdog Report added to the financial data succinct summaries of programs,

policies, and administrative issues, focusing on program verification and policy analysis.

Meanwhile, the advent of the Worldwide Web brought into being <www.Guide-star.com> and equivalent British and Canadian web sites, which enable anyone with an Internet connection to download and inspect the most recent financial filings of any charity.

In the early years of “Who gets the money?”, merely obtaining and exposing IRS Form 990 data was a unique donor service. Seventeen years later, most serious donors are able to obtain the basic information for themselves—if a charity files complete and accurate financial statements.

Donors now most often want help with the evaluative and analytical part of reading a financial statement, including determining whether the programs an organization touts in fundraising appeals are really where most of the money goes.

The original “Who gets the money?” format, in short, has become obsolete. Producing it and The Watchdog Report at opposite ends of the year tends to involve much redundant effort. “Who gets the money?” is still quite popular with readers who do not order The Watchdog Report, but we are now selling nearly as many copies of The Watchdog Report as individual subscriptions to ANIMAL PEOPLE, a clear indication that The Watchdog Report is preferred over “Who gets the money?” by the readers who donate to animal protection organizations at a serious level.

Considerations of time and budget have now forced ANIMAL PEOPLE to make a difficult choice. Recent postal rate hikes raised the cost of mailing each edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE by almost a third. Rather than pass along this whopping increase to subscribers and advertisers, we have elected to reduce publication frequency to nine editions per year, while striving to make each edition more rapidly accessible on our web site, <www.animalpeople-news.org>, and to make available at the web site an ever-expanding array of information (including video clips) which for various technical reasons does not fit into the newspaper.

To avoid reducing the scope of ANIMAL PEOPLE news coverage, we have merged “Who gets the money?” into The Watchdog Report. All information formerly included in “Who gets the money?” is now part of The Watchdog Report entries on individual organizations. “Who gets the money?” will no longer occupy about half of each December edition of the ANIMAL PEOPLE newspaper, creating a logjam of issues and events to catch up on in January/February.

The bad news is that the relatively few people who are ANIMAL PEOPLE subscribers at \$24 a year but do not also order The Watchdog Report, will now have to pay an additional \$25/year if they want to receive the “Who gets the money?” content.

The good news is that practically every donor who comments on The Watchdog Report tells us that it saves its own price many times over in preventing misdirected donations, and in encouraging donations to charities that are doing more of the work that the donors consider most important.

The process of assembling “Who gets the money?” was chiefly a matter of reading, cross-checking, and abstracting financial statements. That is only the first part of assembling a Watchdog Report entry.

Most Watchdog Report entries—and all entries about foreign organizations—are based in part on personal visits to projects of the organizations described. While it is not possible to visit every shelter, sanctuary, clinic, conservation program, or organizational headquarters, we have usually personally verified what the organization does and how it operates at some point in recent years.

Researching even the shortest, simplest entries also includes reviewing past ANIMAL PEOPLE coverage of the organization, key personnel, and activities; reviewing file information from other sources about the organization and the major topics it addresses; searching archives of mainstream news coverage for mentions of the organization and its most prominent executives; and examining the organizational web site, including links.

Major program claims are cross-checked against information from independent sources. Often we correspond with the organization to verify or clarify various points.

A very simple entry for an organization with a single program and location and correctly completed current accountability documents can sometimes be put together in an hour. The entry for a large, complex organization may take several days of working time to produce, even though it may be only a few paragraphs long.

Most of the job each year is research. Most of the research involves finding independent confirmation—or sometimes refutation—of what the organizations tell donors, media, and the public.

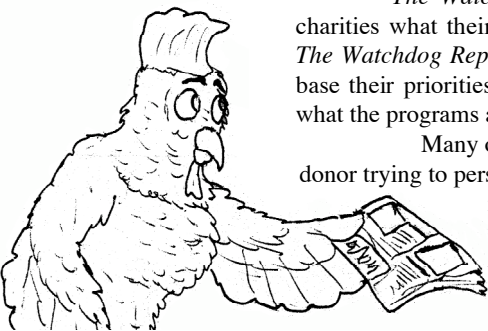
Sometimes a donor will read a Watchdog Report entry and say, “There is nothing here about this organization that the organization itself did not already tell me.”

That should be considered good news, because it means the organization is telling donors the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

The same donor will often have a very different response to several of the other entries. One of the most common donor responses to The Watchdog Report as a whole is to revise estate planning. Another is for the donor to inform a charity why he or she is no longer sending contributions. While some charities respond with outrage or denial, others realize they have a problem, and amend programs, policies, or descriptive literature.

The Watchdog Report does not tell either donors or charities what their priorities, programs or policies should be. The Watchdog Report does insist that donors should be able to base their priorities for giving on an accurate understanding of what the programs and policies of charities are.

Many of the listed charities spend more than \$25 per donor trying to persuade supporters to contribute larger amounts, more often. At \$25 per copy, we believe The Watchdog Report is worth many times more than its weight in junk mail, and believe you will agree when you order yours.



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The editors prefer to receive queries in advance of article submissions; unsolicited manuscripts will be considered for use, but will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of suitable size. We do not publish fiction or poetry.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite readers to submit letters and original unpublished commentary—please, nothing already posted to a web site—via e-mail to <anmlpepl@whidbey.com> or via postal mail to: **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, P.O. Box 960, Clinton, WA 98236 USA.

Quakers' questions

I don't think I am alone in wishing that the Christian churches would join the rest of us in fighting for the animals. Most churches have strong environmental statements, caring for creation and so on, but take little action in terms of condemning the cruelty and misery inflicted on animals by humans.

I am not a Quaker, but I applaud their move to come to grips with the issues by agreeing to examining the following questions at the Friends World Council for Consultation Triennial, which will be held in Dublin in August 2007—

"This Concern has been raised by the Central and Southern Africa Quakers for discussion at the Dublin Triennial:

Do we recognise the suffering imposed upon billions of non-human animals by human animals in the flesh and milk industry; in vivisection laboratories; in using them for power and entertainment and in the taking of their natural habitat? Given that nonhuman animals are utterly powerless to resist this oppression, how is our Society called to act?"

May I suggest that "animal people" with church connections draw the attention of their church to the Quaker example?

—Olga Parkes

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Collecting change

When visitors leave a foreign country by airport or cruise ship, they often have change with them that cannot buy anything. If humane societies had change collection boxes at the points of departure, with the permission of the authorities, many of us would happily give them the money.

—June P. Wilson
San Francisco, California

Editor's note:

The Blue Cross of India has done this at the Chennai airport for many years. It appears to be an effective fundraising method.

Michael Vick

Now that Michael Vick has been indicted on felony dog fighting charges, it is high time to ramp up campaigns against this "sport" and those involved in it.

I applaud the Humane Society of the United States and others for calling on the NFL to immediately suspend Vick. But I feel that our collective response must be stronger. Let us hold peaceful anti-dog fighting rallies at every NFL game all over the country. Every game is televised and has tons of media coverage, so it will be free publicity for our issue.

And let us not forget Vick's endorsement deals, which funnel millions of dollars into his bloody hands. Sponsors are very vulnerable to public opinion and media notice. How about a few rallies outside the corporate offices of a few of the companies which have so far ignored this issue?

Other companies whose products Vick has reportedly endorsed are Coca Cola, Powerade, Kraft, Rawlings, and Hasbro. Vick had also been a pitchman for AirTran Airways since 2004, but his contract with them expired and was not renewed.

—David Sickles

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Pro-animal musicians

Many great musicians and vocalists affiliated with the music industry merit commendation for their fervent and compassionate animal rights and vegetarian advocacy. This includes Paul McCartney, Chrissie Hynde, Boston's Tom Scholz, Moby, Morrissey, Joan Jett, and pianists Linda Gentile and Will Tuttle. The latter also wrote an enlightening book aptly titled "The World Peace Diet." All are extremely talented and blessed with benevolent souls.

—Brien Comerford

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Bucharest update

In 2004 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** visited our shelter in Dragomiresti-Vale, Romania, described us favorably in your article "The Vampires of Bucharest," and ever since have sent us **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, which provides us with very interesting and valuable information.

Since then, we have signed a contract with the Animal Survey Agency, which enables us to save some of the dogs who have been taken from the streets and open courtyards, and are required to be killed after 14 days.

Unfortunately, due to our disastrous financial situation, we could build only three more kennels. This is very sad and frustrating, as we have a lot of space at our disposal.

We have just finished disinfecting and deparasitizing our facility, and are now vaccinating. We are only four people: me, our vet tech, and two keepers. We need more staff, but where to find them and how to pay them?

Fortunately we have not lost our sense of humor. This is good news for our little souls at the shelter, no?

—Monika Stampfli-Muller

Asociatia Pas-cu-Pas 2003
Dragomiresti-Vale
Jud. Ifov, Romania
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Congressional success

As result of the cooperative effort of many individuals and organizations, as well as hard work by Congressman Christopher Shays and his staff, our effort to reinvigorate the Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus has been a huge success. The caucus membership has doubled. We now have 41 members. Republican membership in the caucus has increased to 40%, up from 19% when we started.

Now that we have achieved caucus reinvigoration through increased membership and greater bipartisanship, Congressman Shays and his caucus co-chair will be evaluating future caucus activities, hearings, and projects to enable the caucus to play a more significant role in animal protection.

—Jerry Simonelli

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Animal caretakers everywhere should beware of Lyme disease

Nic Meeuwenoord, 55, used to manage a riding school before he became sick. In the summer of 1996, after carrying a stack of fresh hay, he discovered a red circle on his leg. Later that year he started suffering from fevers, painful joints, throat pain, weight loss and forgetfulness. No doctor could tell him what his problem was.

By now Nic is convinced he contracted Lyme disease from a bite by a tick infected with the agent *Borrelia burgdorferi*. According to Nic, Lyme is "The most underestimated disease." He himself has become invalid, although he still walks with crutches.

"Putting a pistol against your head is not a solution," says Nic, who finds dealing with the constant pain and exhaustion caused by Lyme extremely difficult.

Animal caretakers around the world should be aware that they are extra-susceptible to contracting Lyme disease. They should not underestimate the effects of Lyme, which can be literally crippling.

Working with Animal Nepal in Kathmandu, I concentrated on rescuing injured and sick street animals. While handling cats, dogs, and cows, I regularly came across ticks. At times a tick would jump across and attach itself to my skin. Once or twice I found a swollen tick a few days later, hidden under my armpit or on the side of my leg. I

never thought much of it, not even when I started to become sick in 2003. At first I suffered from recurring infections and neck pain. Later I developed neurological problems. I started to faint and could no longer walk straight. I become forgetful, suffered mood changes, and developed heart problems.

Over the next two years I was treated for all sorts of disorders, but nothing made me feel better. In February 2006 a Dutch general practitioner tested my blood for Lyme titres. Then things fell into place.

Although I do not know for sure if I contracted Lyme during my work with animals, I warn all animal handlers to take extra care. Lyme is a very serious disease which—if not quickly diagnosed and effectively treated—can kill you. Even less serious cases such as mine change one's life considerably. I have not been able to work in three years. I have been treated with multiple antibiotics for almost a year.

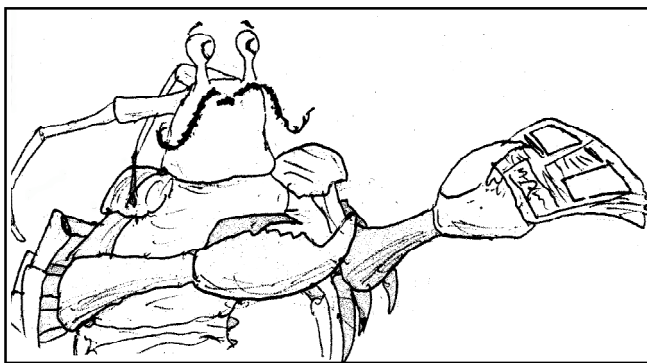
Although my condition is slowly improving, I may not be able to return to my job and passion—animal welfare—for quite a while. I hope there is no such thing as a chronic antibiotic resistant Lyme infection.

Animal welfare organisations in tick infected areas should conduct regular Lyme titre tests on workers and volunteers, especially those who are often sick. Partners



Resident Intern for Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Wildlife in Crisis (WIC) is seeking a Resident Intern.

Responsibilities include: Wild animal care, rescue of distressed wildlife, answering phone, record keeping, fundraising, environmental education and volunteer management and training. Intern will receive intensive training in wildlife rehabilitation. We are seeking an energetic, dedicated, hard-working individual with a desire to learn about caring for native wildlife. Some experience in animal handling preferred. Bachelors degree in biology or related field preferred. Knowledge of Mac/PC helpful. Free shared housing in quiet woodland setting and partial board provided. Start date: ASAP. Please e-mail resume and 3 references to WIC at wildlifeincrisis@snet.net. To learn more about Wildlife in Crisis visit our website at www.wildlifeincrisis.org



HELPING ANIMALS IN ETHIOPIA

I am a physician who lives in Houston, Texas. I am a U.S. citizen but originally from Ethiopia.

In November 2006 I cofounded an organization dedicated to the memory of my mother, whom I lost when I was five.

In April 2007 I went back to Ethiopia to find out about the wildlife situation in my native country. While there I was confronted by the overwhelming numbers of homeless dogs, who are the most mistreated, abused, neglected sentient beings in Ethiopia. Their suffering so bothered me that a day does not go by that I don't think of them. I saw so many hungry, sick, neglected dogs it was stupefying.

I have videos of mothers in the middle of busy streets in midday, so dehydrated their skin could be raised like a tent, trying to breast-feed 10 puppies at a time. I have seen dogs being systematically poisoned by strychnine, continuously convulsing and foaming at the mouth until their rib cages stop moving and they stop breathing.

Because of what I have seen, I have decided to mount a campaign to bring awareness to the problem in Ethiopia. I know the suffering in other countries is similar, but in India, for example, there are now many great animal protection organizations. In Ethiopia, awareness of the plight of nonhuman animals, especially domestic animals and farm animals, is nonexistent. There is one organization I am supporting called the Homeless Animal Protection Society. This is the only organization I know of in Ethiopia that deals with dogs, among other nonhuman animals. They are underfunded, understaffed, and in their current situation they will not be able to bring relief to the suffering of even a fraction of the 750,000 dogs

found in the capital city of Addis Ababa alone.

What my organization would like to do is create a state-of-the-art spay/neuter clinic, hospital with 6 surgery rooms, an educational center, a center for community outreach and teaching, a temporary shelter that can accommodate 50 to 60 dogs, and a holding area for at least 10 to 20 dogs. We want it to be the best in Africa, so that we can have people from other African countries come and train, and learn about animal welfare.

To this end we have already secured the help of U.S. veterinarians who would go to Ethiopia for a couple of weeks at a time to teach. We have been promised by the mayor of Addis Ababa that we will be given land on which to build the facility. We have labor already in place in the city. We have already contracted an architectural engineering firm to do the work. Architectural drawings will be created shortly. What is left is to secure the funding necessary to make it reality.

This is our vision. We can't do it by ourselves. We need the goodwill of people like yourselves to make the dream a reality.

Anteneh Roba, M.D.
President

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Editor's note:

ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett was founding patron of the *Homeless Animal Protection Society*, begun by Efre Legese and Hana Kifle in 2001. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** sponsors their salaries.

Economic impact of animal control

Have you ever seen any reports or studies completed on the impact of animal control in a community? I believe that law enforcement and public education by animal control officers has created more business in our community, and would like to be able to describe our program in terms of economic impact as well as in terms of services provided.

We encourage pet keepers to get rabies vaccination, have their cats and dogs sterilized, get veterinary treatment and grooming, feed their pets properly, provide shelter for pets, clean up after dogs, etc.

This creates a demand for veterinary services, pet-sitting and poop cleaning businesses, boarding kennels, grooming shops, trainers, pet food, and supplies for pets such as leashes, dog houses, water and food bowls, and fenced yards.

When we started enforcing sanitation complaints on pets, poop clean-up businesses developed. Since 1980 the number of veterinary

clinics in our city has increased from 10 clinics to 24. The number of vets has gone from 15 to more than 65.

I realize that some of this might have happened anyway, but believe that animal control law enforcement has encouraged it.

—Jim Weverka

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Lincoln, NE 68510
Phone: 402-441-7900
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Response to “Meat-eating & moral leadership”**“Great editorial”**

Great editorial about meat-eating and moral leadership in the movement. I hope a lot of folks read it!

And of course, what great news re: Oregon banning gestation crates!

—Paul Shapiro

Director

Factory Farming Campaign

Humane Society of the U.S.

2100 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037

Phone: 202-452-1100

Fax: 202-258-3081

<pshapiro@hsus.org>

<www.hsus.org>

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I'm writing another vegan cookbook that will be released next summer.

—Priscilla Feral

President

Friends of Animals

777 Post Road

Darien, CT 06820

Phone: 203-656-1522

Fax: 203-656-0267

<info@friendsofanimals.org>

<www.friendsofanimals.org>

**IFAW doesn't serve fish from endangered species**

Although we wholeheartedly support the vegetarian/vegan philosophy, IFAW supports a process of thoughtful, progressive disengagement from lifestyles that cause cruelty to animals. As an international organization working with people from many different backgrounds and cultures, we believe that we will best serve the animals and achieve victories against cruelty if we encourage and support people who have goodwill toward animals and want to make some positive steps towards living in a more peaceful way with their animal neighbors.

We have the utmost respect for people who choose to adopt a vegetarian/vegan lifestyle, but because we collaborate with people from many cultures, we feel that we can really make a difference

for the animals if we do not restrict our membership and welcome all people who love and care for animals. Out of respect for IFAW staff and donor dietary preferences, all IFAW-catered events and meetings serve only vegetarian dishes and/or fish from non-endangered species.

—A.J. Cady

Program Director

Animals in Crisis & Distress

International Fund

for Animal Welfare

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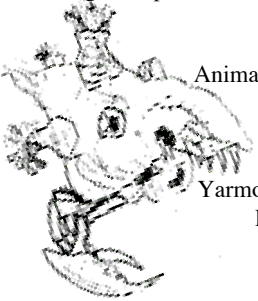
Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

Phone: 508-744-2000

Fax: 508-744-2009

<info@ifaw.org>

<www.ifaw.org>

**Statistics & tactics**

First, let me thank you for being at the Animal Care Expo in Dallas in May. The session on statistics, in which **ANIMAL PEOPLE** participated, was most meaningful to me.

I recently left a cushy job in the health insurance industry to join the management staff at the Bay Area Humane Society. Only a few years ago I became aware and horrified by the realities of our relationship with animals. That was the first big blow. The second was realizing that despite the existence of national-level, multi-million-dollar organizations dedicated to animal welfare and/or animal rights, many groups seem to be run more like a dysfunctional support group than a business. I'm hoping I can change that, at least in my community.

I am so grateful for publications and work like yours that I could carry on for pages, but forgive me for stopping here, because I have a feral cat spay day to prepare for.

I do want you to know that I have cut back my giving to many national organizations, primarily because I am focusing my time and money on two local groups—but I am sending you what I can because I applaud your approach, and you did *not* send me any damned address labels, notepads, cards, or most importantly, some story that is a complete insult to my emotional maturity and intelligence. Thank you for a respectful, intelligent request for support!

—Lisa Kay Peters

Development director/fundraising manager

Bay Area Humane Society

1830 Radisson St.

Green Bay, WI 54302

Phone: 920-469-3110

<www.BayAreaHumaneSociety.org>;

also secretary,

<www.CatsAnonymous.org>

**“What then must we do?”**

I just read your “What then must we do?” funding appeal. Brilliant. To animal people it is an overwhelming world. So many cares, endless suffering. Where to donate? Maddening.

Recently we adopted two cats from a shelter. We selected two, and said a prayer that the others would be adopted. I take comfort in knowing that for all the suffering, there are little success stories the world over. Because of my interest in animal rights, a friend became involved and has saved five animals. I guess that's the ripple effect. She is a teacher, and her class “adopted” a greyhound after visiting a retired greyhound facility. Maybe one or two kids will grow up with the compassion of your adorable Wolf, whose drawings I cherish. So, bless your hearts, and thank you for the words I am often in need of.

—Stephanie Fernyhough

Stanford, California

**RSPCA responds Re: Freedom Food**

I would like to clarify a few points in response to your June 2007 editorial “*Moral leadership, big groups, and the meat issue.*”

Contrary to what you reported, Freedom Food has not “been afflicted by one scandal after another,” and we are baffled as to why you mention Freedom Food in the same breath as the egg mislabelling incident, when we spoke up in shock about it at the time.

Freedom Food has in fact gone from strength to strength, with new farms coming on board and new products being launched into supermarkets.

Further, whilst some footage recently shown on ITV was shocking and frustrating, resulting in the farms being suspended from Freedom Food, it did not show any “abuse” of animals as reported in your article.

Since Freedom Food was launched more than 330 million animals have been on the scheme. That's a third of a billion animals who have benefitted directly as a result of Freedom Food. We will continue to strive to make improvements for farm animals—and firmly believe that if you want to help farm animals, Freedom Food is the best scheme in Britain to support.

—Leigh Grant

Chief Executive

Freedom Food

Wilberforce Way

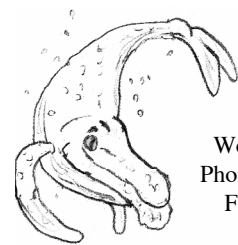
Southwater, Horsham

West Sussex RH13 9RS;

Phone: 44-0870-010-1181

Fax: 44-0870-7530-048

<www.rspca.org.uk>

**Editor's note:**

The claim that no abuse was documented at the farms that were suspended from Freedom Food appears to depend on a definition of “abuse” as an act of commission, which excludes neglect. Humane laws, however, often define neglect as a type of abuse.

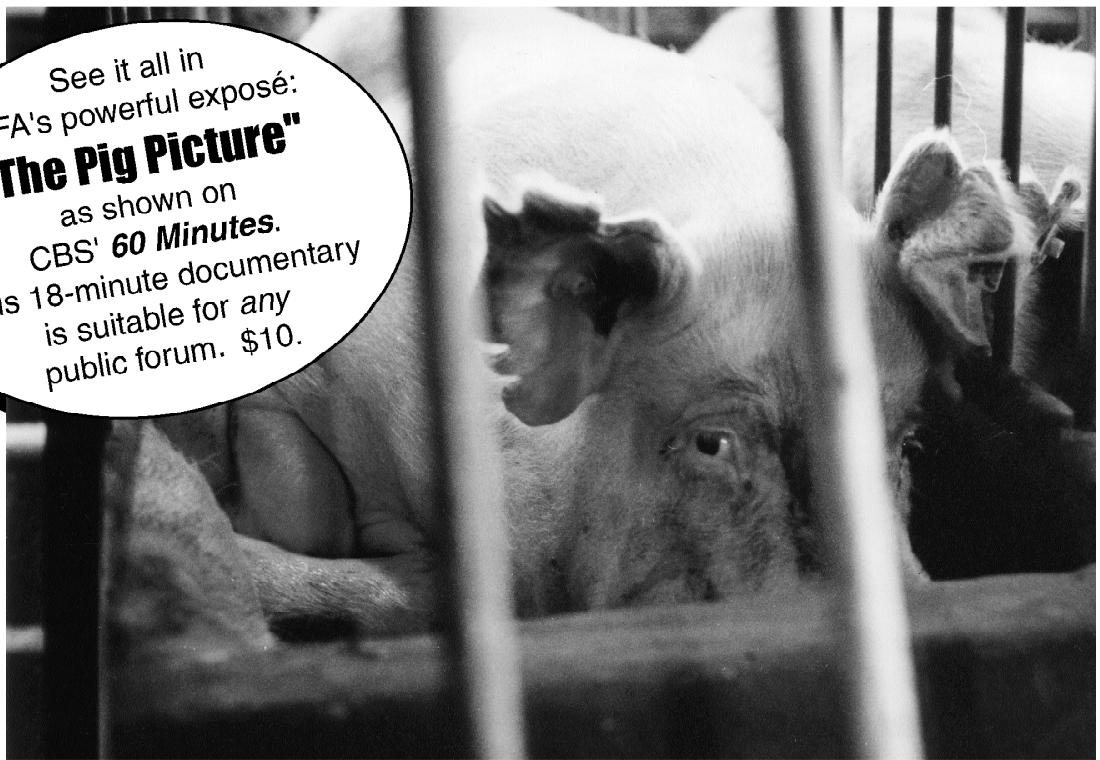
The egg mislabeling scandal undercut the Freedom Food premise that the RSPCA is capable of monitoring animal agribusiness closely enough to prevent bogus claims from eroding humane standards. Millions of falsely labeled “free range” eggs from “free range” farms that never existed were marketed for years all over Britain, in direct competition with Freedom Food eggs, apparently without the Freedom Food inspectors ever suspecting anything was amiss. When the fraud was

detected, it was revealed by inside whistle-blowers using routine ultraviolet light “candling,” or egg-sorting, which showed the grid pattern of the cages’ shells.

The RSPCA nonperformance in response to the mislabeling stands in distinct contrast to the response of the comparatively tiny U.S. organization Compassion Over Killing to the use of misleading “Animal Care Certified” labeling by members of United Egg Producers, the largest egg industry trade association. COK took the matter promptly to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, winning a series of rulings that resulted in United Egg Producers agreeing to replace the “Animal Care Certified” label with “United Egg Producers Certified” by April 2006.

“The Other White Meat”

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Cardiologists and other physicians know that pork is a red meat. But to evade consumer concerns about high fat and cholesterol, the pork industry would have us believe that pork is a “white” meat.

The pork industry even claims that its use of drugs and chemicals is safe. In other words, they'd like us to believe that a sow's ear is a silk purse.

The truth is this: Keeping animals alive in disease-ridden pork factories means the routine use of sulfamethazine, antibiotics, and other drugs which can be passed on to consumers.

So before you bring home the bacon, or any factory-raised pork, please send for a copy of our news-making exposé: *Inside the Pork Industry*.

Once you know the truth about “the other white meat”—you'll be seeing red.

YES! I will help stop factory farms from abusing farm animals and deceiving the American public. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

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Indian journalists dispute British report of jihadi involvement in Kazaringa rhino poaching

You have cited my *Hindustan Times* report of May 27, 2007 [about the arrest of alleged Naga poaching kingpin Lalkhang Go] in the June 2007 issue of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in support of the May 5, 2007 *Guardian* report linking animal body parts trade with jihadi.

The *Guardian* report is far-fetched, and is typical of their anti-Islamic slant. They spoke to people who would, even if you kill them, never say they are Bangladeshi immigrants. Nor do sandbar dwellers have the propensity to brandish arms. The story was more like a Hollywood script.

Jihadis and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland—or for that matter most other militant groups in Northeast India—do not gel. And if you think my report justifies battering the Islamists, well, the NSCN, KRA, KLA, NDFB, and other Northeast Indian rebel groups are predominantly Christians, and there have been intelligence reports about churches funding them.

By the same logic, illegal wildlife traders should be equated with Christianity. But this is not a case of religion. The main driving force is money, and the end-users of ani-

mal body parts are invariably the Chinese or southeast Asians or Europeans and Americans, who are either Marxists, Buddhists, those adhering to indigenous faiths or Christians. Least of all Muslims.

I am not a Muslim, but I think most people in US and Europe are overdoing the bit against the Islamic world.

—Rahul Karmakar
<rahconteur@rediffmail.com>

Editor’s note:

Adrian Levy and Cathy Scott-Clark of the Guardian reported meeting armed suspected poachers believed to be from Bangladesh on a sandbar. Levy and Scott-Clark did not equate these men with the sandbar dwellers of the region, who as Rahul Karmakar mentions are historically not warlike.

Both Hamas and al Qaida were reportedly involved in northern African wildlife trafficking for at least a decade before September 11, 2001, in different regions. Yemen was the reputed hub of the global traf-fic in rhino horn even before that. Levy and Scott-Clark hypothesized, as ANIMAL PEO-

PLE summarized, that similar factions may now be working in eastern India.

Fourteen endangered Asian rhinos have been poached within Kaziranga National Park, in Assam state, eastern India, since March 2007. Four suspects from a Christian village in early August reportedly admitted killing five of the rhinos.

Christian terrorists

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** report on poaching drawing references from *The Hindustan Times* and *The Guardian* seems to be anomalous. One poacher who was arrested recently confessed to have had arms training from an “underground outfit” of Nagaland. He didn’t name any outfit. However, the outfits in Nagaland are Christian terrorists, and have no reported links with Islamic terrorists.

Further, the *Guardian* reporters who visited Kaziranga and reported on poaching nexus should have done a little more research before coming to their conclusion.

The Nagas, a tribe in eastern India, are traditionally trained as sharpshooters. In recent months a tranquiliser gun was seized

from poachers at Kaziranga which, when investigated, was found to be licensed gun to the wildlife chief of Nagaland. Civil service officers from Nagaland were also arrested in the park, killing wildlife.

The alleged illegal migrants encroaching the reserve forests are used as guides. The chain of transporters and poachers vary from place to place and it is assumed that the route from Assam runs to Kathmandu where the trade becomes international.

I have been reporting about poaching in northeastern India for several years now and my observations are based on hard evidence, not assumptions. We have been broadcasting a campaign against poaching, the details of which are available on <www.ndtv.com>. I have no reason to believe that Islamic terrorists are active in this region, either collecting funds through poaching or otherwise.

—Kishalay Bhattacharjee
Bureau Chief
New Delhi Television
Guwahati, Assam
India



The importance of confinement-free housing to sheltering animals successfully

I never realized how important confinement-free housing is for the health and well-being of animals in shelters and sanctuaries until I visited Home for Life. Previously, I had visited animal facilities in which all or most of the animals were isolated alone in cages or tiny rooms. I was told by the directors that this was the only feasible way of providing care.

Confinement-free housing at Home For Life is the core of the humane care this sanctuary provides. Its effect on the animals’ lives is pervasive.

Every animal here has the opportunity to walk, run, and climb if able. Even those who are severely handicapped, i.e. blind or partially paralyzed, are provided with settings and devices that encourage movement and interaction. In addition to large living environments, there are bigger areas to which many of the animals are brought for exercise and play. Even dogs who have difficulty getting along with others are provided with spacious accommodations that offer them continual visu-

al, auditory, and tactile stimulation.

The animals at Home For Life have opportunities for ongoing relationships with the other animals who live with them. This is made possible by the confinement-free housing, which recognizes the social nature of animals, the comfort and pleasure they derive from each other, and the possibility of fulfillment of many of their needs without the continual presence of people.

Many other shelters I have visited—even those that declare themselves in their literature and fund-raising letters to be “cage-free”—keep all or most of their animals alone in cages or other tiny enclosures. These rooms, sometimes no larger than 3 to 5 feet square, with four walls that create total isolation, provide no possibility of visual, auditory, or tactile contact with the outside world. Only at times do the dogs have a limited view, and then only by standing on their hind legs.

What happens to animals in shelters and sanctuaries who do not live in confinement-free housing?

Animals who are severely confined and isolated often develop negative behaviors, such as withdrawal, twirling, or aggression that make them unadoptable or unapproachable. Others become extremely anxious, scratching at the walls of their enclosures.

Various justifications have been made for keeping animals confined and isolated. They include:

“If we make the housing larger, we would not have room for so many animals,” or “The animal has a private space,” or “We take the animal out for a walk,” or “We focus on adoption,” even though the animal might be there for years.

Shelters end up euthanizing animals who develop withdrawal, aggression, etc. because confinement has been so devastating to them.

Donors who receive appeals from animal care facilities need to do their home-

work. Organizations can misrepresent their living facilities. The best way to know an animal shelter or sanctuary is to visit. Other ways of learning include carefully reading and looking at websites, as well as contacting the organization and asking specific questions such as “Exactly how large is an animal’s living space? Do animals live alone or together?”

When an organization describes itself as “cage-free” or “no-kill,” explore the meaning of those terms with the people asking you for a donation.

In summary, nothing justifies isolation and severe confinement. Each day in the lives of animals is important. We owe it to

them to make the present time fulfilling and meaningful.

—Irene Muschel
New York, N.Y.
<benirv@hotmail.com>



Spanish activist objects to “running of the nudes”

On July 5, 2007, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals organized their sixth annual “Running of the Nudes” protest against the so-called “running of the bulls” at the Festival of San Fermin in Pamplona, Spain. Year after year this protest tries to congregate as many nude runners as possible, who end up showing their genitals in the media in a carnival where the focus on bullfighting is completely lost.

The PETA campaigns turn women into objects and their bodies into advertisements. At <www.RunningOfTheNudes.com> PETA claims people should take part in their demonstration because “It’s about babes—not bulls. Hardly-dressed hotties and nearly-nude dudes—need we say more?” The suffering and death of the bulls who are murdered in Pamplona remains practically unmentioned.

The “Running of the Nudes” is now even promoted by the city of Pamplona as one of the attractions offered during the week of the “Running of the bulls.” This must be the only protest in the world against an injustice that helps to attract tourists to the injustice.

If there was any doubt about the response the “Running of the Nudes” provokes

A reader in Havana

Thank you for sending me **ANIMAL PEOPLE** every once in a while. I do my best here in Cuba. Our conditions are not very good, and the only thing I could do was to adopt five lovely stray dogs who were in dire straits.

—Cristina Bergnes
Havana, Cuba
<cbergnes@infomed.sld.cu>

Along with almost every article from back editions, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site offers translations of key items into French & Spanish ... Lewyt Award-winning heroic & compassionate animal stories...vet info links... downloadable handbooks... fund-raising how-to... our guide to estate planning... bios and photos of the people behind **ANIMAL PEOPLE**... and more added monthly!

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in the people of Pamplona and the Spanish public, a quick look at the media coverage will clarify the issue. The size of the breasts of the activists is of more interest than the sad reality the bulls will endure just a few hours after PETA’s carnival.

As an organization dedicated to promoting respect toward non-human animals and focused on ending their exploitation, Igualdad Animal is opposed to the “Running of the bulls” and the bullfights in Pamplona or wherever these terrible events take place. We also consider creativity to be a very important part of activism in defense of animals, but we must try to represent non-human animals with respect. We fight against a terrible reality that must not be hidden and must be treated seriously: mothers separated from their babies, mutilations, uncountable hours of suffering, millions murdered daily at slaughterhouses, bullrings, laboratories...

All of this suffering happens with the complicity of a society immersed in consumerism and triviality.

We regret that organizations that supposedly want to defend non-human animals support and promote PETA. Supporting their demonstrations implies supporting and promoting their ideology. Their position is fundamentally opposed to respect for non-human animals and the abolition of their exploitation.

We encourage the people of Pamplona and Navarra to openly oppose the “Running of the bulls” and other ways of exploiting animals. Those of us who reject animal exploitation and PETA are with you.

—Sharon Nunez
Igualdad Animal/Animal Equality
C/ Montera, 34 28-28013
Madrid, Spain
Phone: (+34) 915 222 218
<SharonN@igualdadanimal.org>
<www.igualdadanimal.org>

Editor’s note:

Nunez also sent a multi-paragraph outline of nine objections to other PETA activities and policies that she believes are “well-farist” rather than “abolitionist,” each foot-noted with web addresses giving further particulars.



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Monkey-laundering? Chinese numbers don’t add up (from 1)

keys could not be exposed to human germs.

“Among Weimei’s 12,000 monkeys,” Chen reported, “3,000 will be selected, quarantined, and sold to the U.S. this year.”

Continued Chen, “The Weimei breeding centre is one of the many rapidly growing number of farms on the mainland for raising monkeys, with most found in Guangxi and Guangdong. Stimulated by soaring demand from U.S. bio-defence programs, supported by governments at various levels, and heavily funded by private investors, the scale of primate farms on the mainland has tripled within half a decade.”

According to Chen, “The central government got the ball rolling in 2002 with the release of the nation’s first primate-breeding standards. Beijing, Hubei, and Guangdong provinces followed a year later, publishing their own guidelines. Similar work started in Guangxi in 2004,” two years after Xie Liping founded her business.

Guangxi Department of Science and Technology director of experimental affairs Wei Gang told Chen that there are eight registered monkey farms in Guangxi, housing about 40,000 monkeys in 2006, but rapidly expanding, with several new breeders entering the business. Monkeys from Guangxi “are also sold to the European Union, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan,” Chen wrote.

Wei Gang confirmed past irregularities. Before government licensing began in 2001, he told Chen, “Some [monkey breeders] even bought wild species on the black market and sold them as domestic pets.”

Trafficking bust

On July 7, 2007, the same day Chen’s article appeared, Malaysian wildlife department criminal division deputy director Celescoriano Razond capped a two-week probe by seizing 950 crab-eating macques and arresting four men, three Malaysians and an Indonesian, on a plantation in Pontian, Johor.

“The monkeys, captured from the jungles of the central state of Pahang and the southern state of Johor, are believed to have been headed for either China or Holland,”

wrote Meera Vijayan of the *Malaysia Star*. Razond told her that those going to China would probably be eaten, while those going to the Netherlands would be used in labs.

“The monkeys were found in a pitiful condition in filthy cages and blue gunny sacks. Around 100 dead monkeys were found piled in a heap nearby,” Vijayan noted.

Monkeys are still eaten in China, but the practice is discouraged, as *China Daily* discussed on December 13, 2006, reporting that “A man narrowly escaped arrest after illegally selling monkey flesh in Haikou, capital of south China’s Hainan province.”

The single incident was considered nationally newsworthy.

“The man beat a gong to advertise his wares,” and was photographed in the act, “but fled before the public security bureau could apprehend him,” according to the *Nanguo Metropolitan* newspaper, whose article *China Daily* summarized. “The vendor claimed his monkey flesh was fresh from the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The meat sold quickly,” *China Daily* added, but some passers-by “disapproved, saying it is cruel to kill a monkey and sell it as food.”

Continued *China Daily*, “An official from the Haikou Forestry Public Security Bureau said killing monkeys and selling their meat breaks the laws protecting wild animals. If apprehended, the vendor will be fined six to ten times the sum he made from his sales.”

Trade volume

U.S. imports of crab-eating macaques increased from 14,778 in 2001 to 27,270 in 2005, according to CITES documents obtained by Chen. Imports from China rose from 3,266 to 12,878.

Ten of the top 20 monkey exporters to the U.S. in 2006 were Chinese companies, according to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service records obtained by the International Primate Protection League. Of the 11,712 monkeys they sent to the U.S., just one firm, Guangdong Scientific Instruments & Materials, provided 5,494.

Mauritian firms sent 4,191, Viet-

namese firms sent 3,596, and exporters from Cambodia (1,532), Indonesia (913), and the Philippines (368) rounded out the list.

Altogether, the U.S. imported 26,338 nonhuman primates in 2006, a slight decrease from 2005. At least 23,756 (90%) of the 2005 total were for lab use.

“Unfortunately many of these monkeys have already been killed in bio-warfare or infectious disease experiments,” said IPPL founder Shirley McGreal. “Most were crab-eating macaques. This species may be doomed [in the wild] if wholesale trade predation is not controlled,” McGreal warned, noting that U.S. imports account for only part of the trade.

“Some U.S. and European users are exporting their research to foreign countries with relaxed or no animal protection laws or enforcement,” McGreal pointed out, “such as two U.S. labs,” the Washington National Primate Center and the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, “which are setting up branches in Nepal.”

Both IPPL and the Australian organization Primates Helping Primates have recently spotlighted the efforts of Animal Nepal and the Wildlife Watch Group of Nepal to draw attention to the Nepalese projects. Nepalese animal advocates contend that the monkey labs operate contrary to traditional Hindu and Buddhist teachings.

CITES

McGreal helped to win increased protection for slow lorises, a small nocturnal primate native to much of Southeast Asia, at the June 2007 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, held in the Netherlands. Delegates from the 170-odd member nations agreed at request of Cambodia to elevate the slow loris to Appendix I status, meaning that the animal is internationally recognized as endangered, and may not be commercially sold across national boundaries.

The major threat to slow lorises, however, other than from habitat loss, is from the traditional medicine industry, a formidable foe, but much less so than U.S. government-

Donations for animals rise

Donations to U.S. animal welfare charities have cumulatively increased 28% over the past three years, according to data released by the Boston direct marketing consulting firm Target Analysis Group. In the 12 months from April 2006 through March 2007, animal welfare charities achieved an 8.5% increase in revenue, a 10% increase in number of donors, and an 8% increase in the number of new donors.

Animal welfare charities were 5.6 times more successful than environmental charities. Reported by Holly Hall in the July 26, 2007 edition of the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, the findings came from an analysis of 68 million donations made by 38 million individuals, who cumulatively gave more than \$1.7 billion in 2006-2007.

funded primate research. Some slow lorises have also been sold as pets, chiefly in Japan.

IPPL and other primate protection groups received only a deferred promise of consideration of a CITES listing for Barbary macaques, the North African species whose colony at Gibraltar are the only wild monkeys in Europe. While Barbary macaques are rarely used in labs, there appears to be considerable resistance in many nations to protecting any macaques, as a possible step toward protecting other species whose trade might cover for trade in the endangered species.

The increasing lab demand for macaques meanwhile has encouraged Puerto Rican trappers to intensify efforts to capture feral rhesus macaques and red monkeys. The monkeys were introduced to Puerto Rico to be bred for research more than 80 years ago. The *National Humane Review*, formerly published by the American Humane Association, mentioned efforts to extirpate them in the 1930s.

Estimating the present monkey population to be about 1,000, the Puerto Rican government has invested \$450,000 in the present capture campaign, according to Danica Coto of Associated Press.

The current price of a macaque for lab use is about \$500 on the global market.

—Merritt Clifton

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Saving one small dog informs the world

(from page 1)

jumble of bones. Overcome by the dank bad air inside, Legese threw up. Then he saw three dogs huddled beside the cement wall. “They just looked at us because they were unable to do anything more,” Legese said. “It seemed they had completely lost hope and were waiting to die. A little bit away from them, we saw another dog, keeping a strong watch. Even though she was unable to walk, she was looking for someone to save her.”

Residents of the Gido Washa area told Legese that no dog had ever been rescued from Gido Washa. Hyenas had sometimes found their way in and out, but not dogs or humans.

Lacking the equipment needed to climb into the fortification and bring the dogs out, Legese threw food down to them and returned to Addis Ababa to get ladders and rope.

“We were unable to sleep over-night,” Legese said. “My son Tommy asked how come this situation stayed like this with so many people around, even embassies and diplomatic residences?”

Narrated Roba, “For a week HAPS fed the dogs until they had the needed equipment and sedatives to get them out.” Sedating and muzzling the dogs was considered neces-

FoA acquires Whale Rescue Team, seeks to reclaim Primarily Primates animals

The Whale Rescue Team, founded in 1984 by Peter Wallerstein, on July 1, 2007 became Marine Animal Rescue, a project of Friends of Animals. Marine Animal Rescue will continue to rescue and rehabilitate stranded marine mammals and birds from Marina del Rey, the beaches of Venice and Santa Monica, and the port of San Pedro.

FoA, based in Darien, Connecticut, acquired the Whale Rescue Team 11 months after reaching an agreement to take over the Primarily Primates sanctuary near San Antonio, Texas, but only two months after taking possession of the sanctuary, which was directed by a court-appointed receiver from mid-October 2006 through April 2007.

FoA on August 6, 2007 sued Chimp Haven, of Shreveport, Louisiana, seeking return of seven chimps who were relocated from Primarily Primates by the receiver. The seven were formerly part of a research colony at Ohio State University, but were sent to Primarily Primates in early 2006.

Chimps Inc., of Eugene, Oregon, the International Primate Protection League, and New Mexico land owner Marguerite Gordon on June 25, 2007 sued Primarily Primates, respectively seeking to keep two chimps, 12 gibbons, and a longhorn steer whom the receiver sent to them.



“One small dog” is prepared for lift to surface. (Hana Kifle) sary because they would have to be carried a long way up.

“We bought a rope and borrowed two metal ladders and fixed them together to fit the height of the hole,” Legese said. Lowering the ladders into the fortification, the rescue team tested the footing to make sure that human weight wouldn’t cause a cave-in, plunging them into the subterranean passages rumored to be below the visible surface.

Two volunteers joined Legese in descending to harness and lift the dogs. Heavy rain added more water to the stinking pool already filling much of the pillbox. The operation took half the day—but Ethiopian National Television arrived to document the dogs’ rescue.

“The four dogs are now at the HAPS shelter. They are clean and healthy,” Legese e-mailed after he and HAPS cofounder Hana Kifle washed and fed them. “We have asked the government to help us stop people throwing dogs into the cave, to make this cave no more a hell for the poor dogs.”

“The government agreed to close the cave,” picked up Roba. “We thought that if we waited for the government to allocate funds to close it, bureaucratic red tape would keep us waiting for a while, and the potential for other dogs being thrown into the cave would be high.

“So, while discussing with the authorities, the Amsale Gessesse Memorial Foundation and Homeless Animal Protection Society decided to have our foundation pay for the physical closure of the cave. No more Gido hell!”

Concluded Roba, “As an isolated event, I know the significance of the rescue is not huge, but the public relation value and the chance it gives us and HAPS to educate people in Ethiopia about animal welfare is huge.”

That proved to be an understatement. Among the friends and supporters Roba told about the rescue was British songwriter and vocalist Maria Daines, whose Maria Daines Band has won international distinction since 1996 in a variety of music genres.



Composing with guitarist Paul Killington, Daines had already recorded an album called *Music United For Animals*, and a song for a documentary about the Hurricane Katrina animal rescues. The Maria Daines Band was booked to play with the U.S. singer Pink on behalf of the Party for the Animals in August 2007 at the Cardiff International Arena.

Recipient of a humanitarian award from the Texas Humane Legislation Network in 2006, Daines may have more endorsements of her favorite pro-animal organizations at her personal web site than material about her music.

Daines on July 11, 2007 pledged to write a song in honor of the Gido Washa rescue. All proceeds from downloads of the song would benefit the Homeless Animals Protection Society. Daines meanwhile posted Legese’s account of the rescue at her web site, asking her fans to support the Amsale Gessesse Memorial Foundation and HAPS.

Daines released her song “One Small Dog” on July 17, 2007. Though four dogs were rescued, Daines focused on the dog who never lost hope.

Recording success is ephemeral. More than 2.4 million songs may be downloaded at <www.Soundclick.com>, the leading web site offering independent label music. Very few songs ever reach “Top 20” status, or stay there for long.

“One Small Dog” on July 29 reached #16 on the Soundclick pop rock chart. A day later it was #9. Reaching #3 on July 31, it remained at #10 on August 7.

Ascending from the depths of Gido Washa to rock stardom, one small dog was educating the world.

Legese and Kifle founded HAPS in 2001, with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett as founding patron. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** funds their salaries. —Merritt Clifton



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GAVATU— As of July 24, 2007, Canadian dolphin broker Christopher Porter was reportedly holding as many as 50 recently captured dolphins in sea pens at Malaita in the Solomon Islands.

“Ocean Embassy, also known as the Wildlife International Network, is in the Solomon Islands trying to export the dolphins to Dubai,” Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Five new dolphin facilities in Dubai want dolphins, whales, polar bears—every marine mammal they can get. Ocean Embassy is the broker.

“Somehow Ocean Embassy has been able to stay out of the media regarding Dubai,” O’Barry added. “They brokered the deal but Porter gets all of the attention. Ocean Embassy represents big money,” O’Barry continued. “They dwarf Porter’s operation. The parent corporation began selling securities via a private placement offering in the United States in late 2003. At present, the parent company is represented by 195 investors from the United States, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and France.

“Capital raised through the private placement offering enabled the founders and management team to create Ocean Embassy Panama as the inaugural site for the company,” O’Barry said. “Ocean Embassy Panama is located in the San Carlos District on the Pacific coast of Panama. The company began construction in San Carlos in August 2006.”

The San Carlos area “could become the next Orlando,” former Sea World senior

dolphin trainer Mark Simmons told *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Chris Kraul. Kraul identified Simmons as executive vice president of Wildlife International Network.

“As proposed,” wrote Kraul, “the \$500-million resort and residential community would be built on a 700-acre site 50 miles west of Panama City. The centerpiece would be an interactive aquatic park where tourists would pay \$100 or more to frolic for a few minutes with the friends of Flipper.”

Noting that polls show 81% of Panamanians oppose dolphin captures, Kraul predicted that, “In the end, the fate of the Ocean Embassy theme park may hinge on politics. President Martin Torrijos has not taken a public stand, but is said to be concerned that the park might spur U.S. environmentalists to oppose a bilateral free trade agreement that goes before lawmakers in both countries later this year.”

O’Barry and others have been concerned that the Ocean Embassy development in Panama might become a base for exporting dolphins throughout the world, whether captured in Panamanian waters or elsewhere.

“The export of Panamanian dolphins and whales was in fact part of the free trade negotiations, conducted secretly while the Panamanian people were being assured that there will be no such exports,” charged Eric Jackson of the *Panama News*.

Contending that he is “working to provide a live alternative use” for dolphins who would otherwise be hunted for their teeth

and meat, Porter on July 3, 2007 challenged Ric O’Barry of the Dolphin Project to debate—“Ideally at Fanalei in the Solomon Islands, a village that continues to practice dolphin hunting,” but perhaps instead at “a Starbucks in San Francisco.”

O’Barry accepted the invitation, but declined the Solomon Islands venue in light of a July 2, 2007 Reuters report about how “Followers of a warlord” in that region “tortured and beheaded at least three men 10 days ago and razed an entire village” of 500 people, ahead of the anticipated arrival of 2,000 international peacekeepers. O’Barry asked that the debate be held “in the offices of the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in Geneva, Switzerland,” with experts on zoonotic disease transmission between humans and dolphins present.

In addition, O’Barry asked Porter to “include your fellow dolphin dealers in the debate. Their names are Dr. Ted N. Turner, Robin Friday, Mark Simmons and Dr. Ted Hammond.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE took the opportunity to ask Porter, “How many dolphins per year are killed for teeth and meat by the residents of the Solomon Islands? How many are killed by the people you are working with? How does this compare to the mortality rate in capture and transportation? Can you cite any examples, from anywhere in the world, where promoting a dolphin capture industry has led to a net reduction in the numbers of

dolphins killed for other purposes?”

Porter replied four times within the next seven hours, without actually answering any of the questions—but Solomon Islands political office holder Lawrence Makili pointed out that, “There are only two places in Malaita,” the island where Porter has his dolphin capture operation, “that hunt dolphins for teeth: Lau, at the northern end of the island, and Fanalei at the southern end of the Island. The Fanalei people were originally from Lau,” Makili explained. Other Malaita residents “don’t hunt dolphins.” And even the dolphin hunters hunt dolphins “primarily to get teeth for the bride price, not for food,” Makili said.

Both **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and O’Barry also asked Porter to account for the dolphins he captured in his first major export venture in the Solomons.

Wrote O’Barry, “It is my understanding that you originally captured about 170 dolphins back in 2003. Of those, 28 were transported to Cancun, Mexico. As you know, several of them died at Park Nizuk. In 2004, 15 of the survivors were transferred to Cozumel. If these figures are correct, this means that about 142 dolphins stayed with you in Fanalei. In 2004, you stated that you only had 44 dolphins left. In 2005 you had 26, and in 2006 you had 20. Then there were none. This was in June 2007, shortly before you started capturing dolphins for Dubai.”

Porter did not account for any of the 122 dolphins whose fate is unknown.

—Merritt Clifton

Gulfarium fails to report marine mammal deaths for more than 18 years

FORT LAUDERDALE—Dolphin Freedom Foundation founder Russ Rector, 58, is betting he’ll outlive the Gulfarium, the Miami Seaquarium, and many of the other first-generation marine mammal parks still operating along the Florida coast.

“We’re all about the same age,” Rector told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “and I’m showing mine, but so are they, and I don’t have to pass building inspections.”

Marineland of Florida, opened in 1938, still exists in name as a swim-with-dolphins facility, but no longer stages dolphin shows. The original circular tank and the slightly larger rectangular tank have been demolished. Most of the property is now a condominium development.

The Gulfarium and Seaquarium, both opened in 1955, are now the oldest Florida marine mammal parks, “and are not aging gracefully,” says Rector, using their web site illustrations to point out problems.

Rector, like Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry, is a former dolphin trainer who became disenchanted with the business. Rector started at Ocean World in Fort Lauderdale in 1969, soon after O’Barry left the Seaquarium and just before O’Barry staged his first protest against marine mammal captivity, attempting to free two dolphins in the Bahamas on Earth Day 1970.

Working at Ocean World for seven years, Rector later made Ocean World the first target of the Dolphin Freedom Foundation, and two years later, in 1994, saw it closed. Rector predicted that the 12 Ocean World dolphins would not survive sale to a Honduran resort, and was right.

The Seaquarium was his next focus. It remains in business, but Rector predicts it will not long outlive Lolita, the resident orca, captured at Penn Cove in Puget Sound in 1973. No longer performing in shows, Lolita is believed to be in poor health. In 2003 Rector alerted Miami building and safety inspectors to electrical problems at the Seaquarium that led to citations for 137 code violations.

Rector escalated efforts against the Gulfarium after the deaths of Daphne, a female pantropical spotted dolphin, and Buster, an Atlantic spotted dolphin. Daphne died on April 22, 2007; Buster died two days later.

A May 22, 2007 surprise inspection by agents of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service found that the Gulfarium

had failed to file federally required reports of marine mammal deaths since 1988. At least six deaths had not been reported.

Daphne, a Gulfarium resident since 1998, died from the effects of prolonged treatment with the drug metronidazole, USDA inspector Michelle Williams discovered.

Williams found that longtime Gulfarium veterinarian Forest Townsend prescribed a 10-day course of metronidazole. Through employee error, Daphne received metronidazole for two months. “Prior to death, the dolphin started exhibiting signs of a neurologic problem,” Williams noted, but Townsend was not informed.

“Questions were also raised about a dolphin named Prince,” wrote Tom McLaughlin *Northwest Florida Daily News*, “whose name doesn’t appear in an inventory of Gulfarium marine mammals kept by the National Marine Fisheries Service.”

Gulfarium general manager Don Abrams told McLaughlin that “Prince” was a dolphin listed as “Pearl,” who was captured in 1985 and died as result of damage done to the Gulfarium by Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

Rector told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the dolphin died due to sea water surging over her tank and collapsing a roof.

Summarized McLaughlin, “The National Marine Fisheries Service also cited the Gulfarium for failing to maintain an inventory of its animals and for neglecting to disclose where it had acquired its river otters. Sea lion enclosures and the facility’s ‘rookery’ were particularly poorly maintained, the report said. Williams reported finding improperly stored and packaged animal food.

“The Gulfarium was also cited for sanitation issues,” McLaughlin continued, including “a dead sea gull found in a non-event area and cigarette butts disposed of in an area containing flammable material.

“USDA inspectors found that Kiwi, a dolphin who had been housed with Daphne, had been kept by herself since Daphne’s death in late April,” McLaughlin added.

Gulfarium curator Greg Siebenthaler resigned on June 8, citing health reasons. The son of founder John Siebenthaler, who died in 2000, Greg Siebenthaler remains on the board of directors.

Gulfarium general manager Don Abrams told McLaughlin that a June 21 follow-up inspection found that most of the issues identified in May were resolved. But that was before the USDA, NMFS, Rector, and news media including **ANIMAL PEOPLE** received a 15-page letter from former Gulfarium trainer Candi McGrew. Employed at the Gulfarium for five years, ending in 2006, McGrew alleged that management neglect of maintenance and veterinary care contributed to many of the non-reported animal deaths.

The Gulfarium declined invitations from **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and WJHG-7 television reporter Elyse Molstad to respond to McGrew’s allegations.

Rector meanwhile filed a complaint about Gulfarium electrical maintenance with the Okaloosa County Code Division.

Other sites struggle

Other Florida animal exhibition facilities are reportedly struggling in the shadows of Sea World, Walt Disney’s Wild Animal Kingdom, and Busch Gardens.

The 34-year-old Clearwater Marine Aquarium, occupying a former sewage treatment plant that the city acquired for \$1.00, hopes to have bought a new lease on life by cutting a hole in the roof over the main dolphin tank, as part of \$400,000 worth of renovations completed during the first half of 2007.

The roof, only 12 feet above the water, limited the ability

of the three resident dolphins to jump.

The Zoo Northwest Florida in Pensacola is \$3 million in debt and in danger of closing, reported Michael Stewart of the *Pensacola News Journal* on July 29, 2007.

“It remains one of the area’s top attractions,” Stewart wrote, “but it still is reeling from more than \$600,000 in damage inflicted by Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Dennis in 2005.”

Just as the zoo board started a fundraising drive, an adolescent female hippopotamus named Niles was killed by her father on July 7, and a 10-year-old giraffe named Sammy was found dead on July 17.

Stewart detailed a long list of animal care issues alleged by former docent Carol Mills and ex-employee Sandra Dempsey. While the Zoo Northwest Florida management denied that any of the items they mentioned were serious, the zoo lost accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in 2006, after having held accredited status since 1998.

“The Zoo has been operating at a loss since its inception,” Stewart wrote. “In 2004, the Gulf Coast Zoological Society, a nonprofit organization, took over the Zoo from Animal Park Inc., founded by four local businessmen,” whose contributions have continued to keep it open.

—Merritt Clifton

RSPCA changes guard

Jackie Ballard, the former Member of Parliament who has headed the **Royal SPCA of Great Britain** since 2002, will on October 22, 2007 become chief executive of the **Royal National Institute for the Deaf**, RNID announced on July 30, 2007. The RSPCA reportedly will not begin seeking her successor until after she has left.

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Who is killing the Virunga gorillas?

GOMA, DRC—Seeking the killers of endangered mountain gorillas in Virunga National Park, near the eastern border of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNESCO and the World Conservation Union on August 14, 2007 sent out a posse.

“The killings are inexplicable,” said a United Nations press release. “They do not correspond to traditional poaching,” and “have taken place despite increased guard patrols and the presence of military forces.”

“Seven mountain gorillas have been shot and killed this year, four of them last month, more than during the conflict that wracked Africa’s Great Lakes region in the late 1990s,” the release continued. “Some 700 gorillas are estimated to still survive in the area, about 370 of them in Virunga.”

The first two gorillas killed in 2007 were the silverback males of the Rugenda family. The next five victims were adult females.

“The family is one of several groups of gorillas that live on the Congo side of the sprawling Virunga National Park, and are visited from the Bukima camp,” reported Stefan Lovgre for *National Geographic News*.

The killings did not surprise Paul Lughembe, coordinator of the DRC grassroots organization Safe Environment & Enhanced For All, which operates from a Rwandan post office box due to fighting in the DRC.

Lughembe on May 28 and June 20,

2007 distributed electronic updates about imminent threats to gorillas and other animals in the Virunga region, seeking help that never came to prevent just the sort of massacres that occurred. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** promised Lughembe coverage of his findings, but did not get to press between receipt of his reports and the killing of four gorillas on July 22.

“The deployment of three brigades [of the newly reconstituted DRC army] is a source of annoyance to the local population in Rutshuru, Masisi and Lubero,” Lughembe warned in his first report. “Locals have created their own defence groups to resist the soldiers of the three brigades, who seem to be loyal to the renegade General Laurent Nkunda. So the situation is confused on ground and the war is generalized.”

“Gorillas have been taken hostage by men of war,” Lughembe explained, who “gave an ultimatum of killing all 20 gorillas living in the reserve” near their encampment.

Lughembe’s second report described his June 16 effort to rescue a baby gorilla, after notifying representatives of the Uganda Department of Environmental Conservation and the World Conservation Union. The gorilla was said to be held at Rumangabo.

Posing as “messengers of a business man who sent us from Goma to buy a gorilla,” the team obtained a Rwandan military driver, who “helped as interpreter,” Lughembe said.



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“The guide drove us to Camp Vodo,” on the outskirts of the Rumangabo military base. There the team found not one but two baby gorillas, one two months old and the other four months old.

“The possessor of the first baby gorilla was selling her for \$3,000 U.S., and the second was selling his for \$5,000 U.S.,” Lughembe said. He was not allowed to photograph the gorillas. A sale was not completed because Lughembe did not have the money and the sellers did not accept his invitation to bring the gorillas to Goma to be paid.

“The guide then drove us to a third possessor,” Lughembe recounted. “Her baby gorilla endured an atrocious wound to the right thigh. This woman collaborated with soldiers who provide her with gorillas, she said. She told us that they always kill the mother first, before they can take babies. She told us that she had an older gorilla eight kilometres from

there. We told her that we would only buy it if we could see it. Imploring that it was too far to go there, but to reassure us, she brought us a packet of hairs and the excrement of this adult gorilla.

“We asked her where they find these gorillas,” Lughembe continued. “She confided that they are taken from the Bukima forest, six kilometers from there, probably in collaboration with some armed soldiers. The woman confided that she collaborates with an Ugandan business man who often comes to Kiwanja from Uganda,” and named several of their associates.

Despite the many roadblocks and checkpoints in the region, Lughembe established that the gorilla sellers—whose main business appeared to be bushmeat—appear to move easily, “through corruption or influence,” and interviewed a man who claimed to be one of their couriers. —Merritt Clifton

Coming events

August 25: Animal Acres Gala, Acton, Calif. Info: 661-269-5404, x302; <outreach@animalacres.org>.

August 25: Gender & Animals conf., Uppsala, Sweden. Info: <mans.andersson@gender.uu.se>; <www.gender.uu.se/node25>.

Aug. 28-30: Employing Veterinarians, PetSmart Charities webinar. Info: <shayton@PetSmartCharities.org>; <petsmartcharities.webex.com>.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2: Animal Law In Australasia. Info: c/o 64-9-3737599, x88802; <p.sankoff@-auckland.ac.nz>; <www.law-staff.auckland.ac.nz>.

Sept. 9-21: Cambridge Animal Welfare Course. Info: 44-0-1223-337697; <st374@cam.ac.uk>; <www.vet.cam.ac.uk/news/-awcourse.pdf>.

Sept. 13-16: Southern Regional Spay/Neuter Leadership Conference, Memphis. Info: <www.spay-usa.org>.

Sept. 13-16: Midwest Birding Symposium, Moline, Ill. Info: 800-747-7800; <amusal@visitquadtities.com>.

Sept. 16: Surviving the Next Pandemic: Bird Flu and Other Emerging Infectious Diseases, talk by Michael Greger, M.D., New York City. Info: <nybirdclub@yahoo.com>.

(continued on page 11)

TRIBUTES

In honor of Louise Klein & Howard Simkover, on the occasion of their June 21, 2007 wedding. —Esther Klein

In honor of the Prophet Isaiah, St. Martin De Porres, Ellen G. White, & Cesar Chavez. —Brien Comerford



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Fire hits Dubrovnik shelter

DUBROVNIK—Rescuers evacuated 200 dogs from the Društvo Za Zastitu Zivotinja dog shelter just ahead of one of the worst of the midsummer 2007 forest fires that ravaged the Croatian/Serbian border region.

The shelter occupies a fort dating to Napoleonic times, used by Serbians who shelled the walled city of Dubrovnik in 1991-1992, killing about 250 residents. Little changed since the 13th century, Dubrovnik is a United Nations-designated World Heritage landmark.

"The fire damaged parts of the shelter, but no animals were injured," reported Vier Pfoten founder Helmut Dugler on August 8. Based in Vienna, Austria, Vier Pfoten has helped Društvo Za Zastitu Zivotinja to sterilize dogs, and also aids a Dubrovnik feral cat project.

"They lost a certain amount of food," Dogs Trust chief executive Clarissa Baldwin added, citing contacts who helped to organize the 2005 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in Dubrovnik, "but lots of people from the town have been donating food. I will see what we can do to assist."

The sheep of the Kornati islands off Croatia were less fortunate. "Major drought in July exhausted all reserves of surface water," dried out wells, and resulted in "weeks of no presence of even dew in the mornings," e-mailed Davorko Feil of the Association Life.

Feil estimated that up to 25% of the estimated 5,000 sheep who inhabit the islands died of thirst, even though they are "adapted to the dry conditions that usually exist there."

Kornati residents asked Croatia to use firefighting tanker aircraft to fill two dry ponds, Feil said, but all available aircraft were fighting the fires on the mainland.

Animals at risk from drought & flooding (from page 1)

Park, which is not surprising in view of the extreme shortage of basic commodities in Zimbabwe," e-mailed Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force chair Johnny Rodrigues on July 24, 2007. "The park needs 20,000 litres of diesel to ensure that there is enough water for the animals during the dry season, from August to November."

The 2007 drought has accelerated the decline of Zimbabwean wildlife since 2000, when the Mugabe government encouraged landless supporters to invade farms and conservancies owned or managed by residents of European ethnicity.

Rodrigues estimates that of 620 Zimbabwean game farms existing in 2000, only 14 are still operating, with a net loss of 91% of the wildlife they accommodated. Of 15 conservancies existing in 2000, only the Save Valley Conservancy remains, for a net loss of 83% of conservancy wildlife.

"We have not been able to obtain figures on animals lost in National Parks," Rodrigues said, "but if we conservatively estimate that only 10% have been lost, this brings the loss over the whole country to 59%. Since the collapse of the economy, the National Parks have not been able to carry out anti poaching patrols effectively," so estimating a 10% loss is probably low.

"Although wildlife is still fairly abundant in Hwange National Park and at Mana Pools," Rodrigues added, "we receive regular reports from tourists that they are very lucky to spot any game in Gonarezhou and Chisarira. Likewise, the Umfurudzi Wilderness had wildlife in abundance prior to the land invasions, but it has almost been totally eradicated now by poachers."

Speaking to the government-controlled *Harare Herald*, Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority spokes-person Edward Mbeve on July 26, 2007 confirmed that game meat was being illegally sold in Matabeleland, Mashonaland West and Mashonaland Central."

The South African National SPCA on July 22, 2007 appealed for help on behalf of the Zimbabwe National SPCA. "The call follows reports that food shortages forced the Zimbabwe National SPCA to euthanize more than 600 stray animals housed in its kennels," wrote Thabo Mabaso of the Cape Town *Cape Argus*.

Cape of Good Hope SPCA chief executive Allan Perrins "told the *Cape Argus* that public response had been overwhelming," Mabaso recounted, but that left the problem of getting supplies from Cape Town to the points of need, amid

reports of desperate Zimbabweans—including police—hijacking truckloads of anything edible and "requisitioning" fuel from any vehicle they could stop.

"A statement by the SPCA said the mass exodus of Zimbabweans to neighbouring countries had left many animals dying of hunger," said Mabaso. "The situation is not conducive to rehoming"

Said the SPCA, "Food for captive wildlife and animals on farms is a central issue. We fear that these animals may themselves become targets for food."

The drought hit South Africa as well. South African National SPCA executive director Marcel Meredith deployed eight emergency teams to wildfire zones in Mpumalanga, Swaziland, and KwaZulu-Natal during the last weekend of July 2007.

Initially the NSPCA teams euthanized sheep, cattle, and wildlife who were caught by the flames. More than 2,000 sheep and 300 cattle were reported killed. The fires also killed as many as 20 people, and left more than 1,000 people homeless.

Bergville veterinarian Ariena Shepherd told Stephanie Saville of the KwaZulu-Natal *Mercury* that farm workers ran through flames at one point to cut a fence to save a herd of cattle.

That left the problem of how to

(continued on page 12)



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"Before this rotation, I had not planned on helping animal shelters. These two weeks have changed my mind and motivated me to make a difference in my community."

Third-year veterinary
student, Maddie's®
Shelter Medicine Program,
Auburn University



Events (continued)

- Sept. 15:** Farm Sanctuary Twilight Tour, Watkins Glen, N.Y. Info: 607-583-2225, X221; <jgusic@farm-sanctuary.org>.
 - Sept. 18:** Intl. Conf. on the Relationship between Animal Abuse & Human Violence, Oxford, U.K. Info: <director@oxfordanimaethics.com>; <www.oxfordanimaethics.com>.
 - Sept. 24-28:** Animal welfare, livelihoods, & enviro conf., Nairobi, Kenya. Info: <www.kendat.org>.
 - Sept. 29-30:** World Vegetarian Weekend Celebration, San Francisco. Info: 415-273-5481; <www.sfv.org>.
 - Sept. 30-Oct. 6:** Intl. Vegan Fest, Murdeshwar, Karnataka, India. Info: <www.ivu.org/veganfest>.
 - October 1-2:** Chemical Immobilization of Animals, Bend, Oregon. Info: 608-767-3071; <safecaptur@aol.com>; <www.safecapture.com>.
 - Oct. 1-12:** East Coast Animal Control Academy, Sykesville, Maryland. Info: 410-386-8100 or hchoma@carrollcc.edu>.
 - Oct. 4:** World Animal Day. Info: Naturewatch, 44-1242-252871; <www.worldanimalday.org.uk/index.asp>.
 - Oct. 4-7:** Intl. Animal Rights Protection Film Festival, Kiev, Ukraine. Info: <www.cetallife.com.ua>.
 - October 13:** Dogtoberfest, Jacksonville, Fla. Info: 904-338-9039; <janet-wesley@fcnmp.org>.
 - Oct. 14:** Feral Cat Summit 2007, Forestville, Maryland. Info: <www.pgferals.org>.
 - October 15-Nov. 30:** Wishbones for Pets collections for animal charities. Info: <www.wishbonesforpets.com>.
- (continued on page 11)



IF YOUR GROUP IS HOLDING AN EVENT, please let us know—we'll be happy to announce it here, and we'll be happy to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.

Global warming, drought & flooding (from page 11)

feed the survivors. "We've never seen anything like this. There is no grazing or hay left for the remaining livestock," Paulpietersburg Farmers' Association chair Arno Engelbrecht told Saville.

High water

Farmers in parts of India and almost all of Bangladesh had much the same problem, but for the opposite reason, with much of their grazing land underwater.

Two weeks of heavy rain starting on June 30, 2007 initially brought extensive flooding in Orissa and northern Andhra Pradesh, India, killing close to 30 people, temporarily marooning 600,000, and displacing as many as 1.5 million. The damage increased as seven major tributaries poured water into the Mahanadi River.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals began disaster relief assessment in the vicinity after receiving a July 9 appeal for help from J.B. Das of People for Animals.

"It was deemed that while large numbers of people were displaced and affected that the situation in this region was a cyclical event caused by changes in monsoonal patterns," e-mailed WSPA director general Peter Davies to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "It is deemed more appropriate to avoid annual relief, expenditure, and try to undertake a disaster risk reduction program as a model. WSPA is

currently investigating the details and cost of such a program," collaborating with the Visakha SPCA, of Visakhapatnam, which has had extensive experience in recent years with disaster relief and recovery.

"Central to this plan," Davies said, "will be constructing cyclone shelters for animals next to cyclone shelters for people."

The crisis moved northeast during the next two weeks. More than 5,300 villages in Assam were flooded by August 4, forcing about 117,000 people and many of their animals into 523 refuge camps, reported Sushanta Talukdar of *The Hindu*.

About 80% of oft-flooded Kaziranga National Park in Assam was inundated, as it often has been in recent years. The Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary was underwater from July 23 into mid-August. Kaziranga division forest officer Bankim Sarma told Talukdar that a variety of wildlife including an endangered one-horned rhino had drowned, and seven hog deer were hit by speeding vehicles while trying to cross a busy highway to safety, but 885 hog deer, 112 elephants, and 50 wild buffalo were known to have survived the crossing.

But Bangladesh took the worst hit. Reaching Dhaka on August 12, WSPA disaster relief coordinator Philip Russell called the flooding "the worst in living memory in Bangladesh. Two million people are believed to be displaced," Russell e-mailed to WSPA



headquarters in London, "many with animals, mostly into temporary camps run by both the government and nonprofit organizations. Many of the displaced are small holders with up to 10 milking cows and a few sheep and/or goats," who "rely on their animals for their sustenance and livelihood."

The only WSPA member society in

Bangladesh is the Bangladesh Animal Welfare Organisation, of Dhaka, an animal advocacy organization with little hands-on capacity, which has partnered in projects with the Bangladesh Human Development Program.

Russell was investigating whether WSPA could usefully intervene as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press. —Merritt Clifton

Events (continued)

October 19-21: Dog Therapy Camp, Valley Cottage, N.Y., conducted by Hudson Valley Humane Society Visiting Pet Program. Info: 845-267-8795; <HVHS-Visiting-Pets@aol.com>; <www.HudsonValley-VisitingPets.com>.

October 25-27: The Fix It Forum, Oakbrook, Illinois. Info: <www.pets-martcharities.org>.

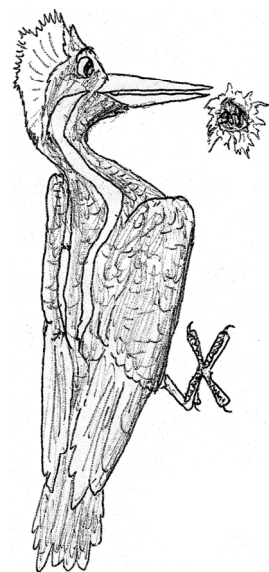
October 31-Nov 2: Intl. Companion Animal Welfare Conf., Berlin. Info: <www.icawc.org>.

Nov. 2: Nathan Wino-grad signs book Redemption for Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Project, Seattle. Info: <Julie@feralcatproject.org>.

Nov. 9-10: Equine Practitioners Conf., Cornell U., New York. Info: <www.vet.cornell.edu/conferences/EquinePrac/2006/>. <SSL37@cornell.edu>.

Dec. 8: Holiday Dinner for the Animals with United Poultry Concerns founder Karen Davis. Info: 407-617-5572; <ruveg-an@cfl.rr.com>.

Dec. 13-15: Middle Eastern Network for Animal Welfare conference, Cairo. Info: <asherb-infinity.com.eg>; <www.menaw.net>.



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Saving wild burros in their native habitat

OLANCHA, California—Wild Burro Rescue founder Diana Chontos has in common with the film ogre



Diana Chontos & volunteer Mike Star. (Kim Bartlett)

Shrek that she lives in a stone house in the middle of nowhere, is a seldom-seen legend, and puts saving her asses ahead of the comfort of a damsel in frequent distress.

Among the differences are that Shrek memorably saved one ass, in his 2001 screen debut. Chontos had already saved hundreds, beginning in 1984. Shrek lives in a swamp, with abundant water. Chontos lives in the high desert near parched Owens Lake, drained in the early-20th century water diversion scandal dramatized by Jack Nicholson in the 1974 film *Chinatown*.

Chontos herself could play the damsel in distress, possibly with significantly greater fundraising success, but the role never suited her.

“Kiss our asses,” the Wild Burro Rescue bumper stickers proclaim.

Like the resident wild burros themselves, Chontos and Wild Burro Rescue are wiry, independent, lean and enduring. Hard times have been frequent, prosperity just a rumor. Much of the time Chontos has only one or two hardy volunteers for help, or none at all. She has no paid staff, barely managing to pay herself grocery money.

A comparatively small investment of under \$350,000 could pay off the mortgage on the spectacularly scenic 140-acre sanctuary and all other debts, drill a reliable well, supply adequate electricity, add barns enough to give all of the burros shelter (if they choose to use it) and fix up buildings on the property that could accommodate visiting volunteers.

Many other sanctuaries in southern California raise \$350,000 in a couple of months, taking advantage of proximity to Hollywood and the Silicon Valley.

But Wild Burro Rescue is well off the beaten track, almost off of any track at all, and while Shrek was at a loss when asked to feed a donkey, Shrek might know more about organizing a celebrity gala. What fortune blew Wild Burro Rescue’s way was a howling wind storm at Halloween 2003 that tumbled a four-equine trailer like a cardboard box, wrecking it. An inebriated volunteer—no longer associated with



One of the WBR management experts. (Kim Bartlett)

Wild Burro Rescue—later wrecked the larger of the two WBR water tankers. The smaller tanker—with a leaky tank—collects water for the burros several times a day from a recreational vehicle park whose owner is sympathetic toward animals, and allows Chontos to use her showers.

The RV park is near the turn-off from Route 395 to Wild Burro Rescue. A dirt road takes visitors across the Los Angeles Aqueduct to a narrower dirt road mined with boulders so large that truckloads of fill would be needed if they were bulldozed out.

Fenced burro compounds stand alongside the lower part of the access road. More burro compounds and wooden former bunkhouses surround the shaded stone headquarters. The headquarters gets some electricity from solar panels and batteries, but the property has no refrigeration and no running water other than winter runoff from the Inyo Mountains.

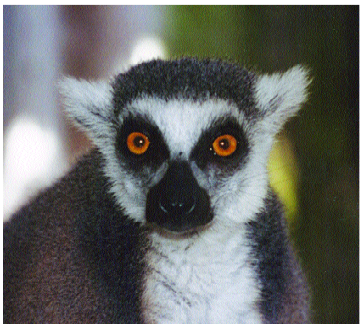
East of the Inyo National Forest and Sierra Nevada

A New Reorganized Primarily Primates

April’s court settlement means litigation is over and Primarily Primates can move on. Please help make the nation’s first primate sanctuary a model of excellence for refuges worldwide. Invest in our future.

Primarily Primates, Incorporated is a non-profit sanctuary in Bexar County, Texas that operates to house, protect, and rehabilitate various native and non-native animals. The private refuge currently houses several hundred nonhuman animals, and, as the name implies, focuses primarily on caring for apes and monkeys. Many are cast-offs from the pet trade and biomedical research institutions. Individuals who have been accepted into the refuge include chimpanzees once used in space training and testing protocols by the United States Air Force and Oliver, a chimpanzee once paraded on television shows as the “humanzee” due to a habit of walking upright.

Primarily Primates was founded in 1978. Its current board, structured in 2007 under an agreement with the Attorney General of the State of Texas, includes a



veterinarian with extensive primate experience, long-time sanctuary facilitator, also with extensive primate experience, and the long-time president of the animal-advocacy group Friends of Animals.



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mountains, just west of Death Valley, the sanctuary now harbors about 180 wild burros rescued from National Park Service land where they would otherwise have been shot, miscellaneous mules and horses taken in from domestic situations, about 20 dogs and cats who have found their way there or have been dumped nearby, and wildlife including black bears, pumas, bobcats, coyotes, and sidewinder rattlesnakes.

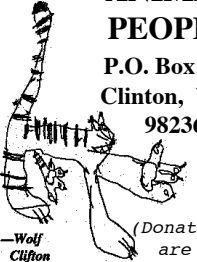
The wild predators and rattlesnakes are more a threat to human intruders than the predator-and-snake-savvy wild burros. Few predators will risk a burro kick. Snakes avoid being trampled. Foals might become puma prey if Chontos allowed breeding, but—as in the wild—the jacks and jennies are live in separate herds. Many of the jacks are gelded. The only young equines on the premises are the foals of animals who were pregnant when recently rescued.

The sanctuary site was previously a hunting ranch. Hunting and shooting of any kind have been prohibited since Wild Burro Rescue bought the site in 2000. Meat is not allowed on the premises, either.

(continued on page 14)

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—Wolf Clifton



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Even “Shangri-La” needs animal sanctuaries & rabies control

THIMPHU, Bhutan—Touring the U.S. to raise support for the Jangsa Animal Saving Trust, Lama Kunzang Dorjee hesitated to call his work in Bhutan uniquely difficult.

Yes, Kunzang acknowledged, it is difficult coordinating the activities of half a dozen animal sanctuaries scattered throughout a nation which is still connected mainly by footpaths, especially when dozens of long-horned bullocks have to be moved to and from their summer pastures over swaying single-file suspension bridges—but all of the Jangsa locations are now connected by mobile telephone, Kunzang quickly added.

Yes, the Jangsa Animal Saving Trust needs money, Kunzang explained. Money is needed to start an Animal Birth Control program in the capital city of Thimphu. This will be modeled after the Animal Birth Control program directed by Help In Suffering veterinarian Naveen Pandey in Darjeeling, India. Money is needed for equipment, vehicles, vaccines, and surgical supplies, all of which must be imported.

But, Kunzang continued, fellow Bhutanese donate most generously in support of the Jangsa programs. Unlike American animal advocates, Kunzang said, he has little difficulty explaining to fellow citizens what he is doing, and why.

Kunzang showed slides and video clips of villagers walking miles to contribute baskets of corn to monks who trek throughout the nation, seeking alms for the animals. They have little difficulty convincing people to donate what they can, Kunzang said. The only problem is that the Bhutanese mostly do not have very much to give.

Bhutan, with just 675,000 residents and 24 indigenous dialects, is among the world's poorest, least populated and least accessible nations, with a literacy rate of under 50%. Yet the entire nation is by ethic and tradition a quasi-animal sanctuary. About 75% of the Bhutanese are Buddhists; most of the rest are Hindus. Ethnic tension simmers between the 80% of the people who practice mostly vegetarian forms of Buddhism and Hinduism, and the 20% who are Tibetan refugees, or are descended from Tibetan refugees, and—though also Buddhists—eat meat.

Archery is the national sport. Hunting, however, is strictly forbidden. Depredations by tigers and elephants are much feared, but Bhutanese tradition, Kunzang explained, holds that tigers and elephants are the elders of the forest, who must be respected, lest they do even more harm.

Two-thirds forested, mostly more than a kilometer above sea level, Bhutan was entirely closed to the outside world until 1961, and is still hard to visit. The mystic city of Shambhala, mentioned in Buddhist literature more than 1,600 years ago, has been variously identified with places in Bhutan, Nepal, Tibet, and India.

The “Shangri-La” created by novelist James Hilton in *Lost Horizon* (1933), based on the Shambhala legend, drew heavily from Hilton's experience in the Hunza Valley of Pakistan, at the western end of the Himalayas while Bhutan is at the eastern end, but even then Bhutan was a closer match to “Shangri-La,” to the extent of western knowledge.

Just one small airport serves Bhutan, at Thimphu. Paved roads link the major towns, but motor vehicles are scarce.

As poaching and deforestation intensify in Assam, India, according to Kunzhang, Assamese wild animals are fleeing into Bhutan, seeking refuge at higher elevations.

Bhutan has so far escaped violent insurrections fueled by poaching, such as have devastated the wildlife of both Assam and Nepal. Hoping to avoid any spill-over of the Nepalese violence, Bhutan banned the Nepalese language in 1988 and deported many alleged Nepalese immigrants.

More than 90% of the Bhutanese population farms the less than 10% of the land that can be cultivated, relying on bullock power to do whatever cannot be done with human muscle. Most of the activity of the Jangsa Animal Saving Trust involves looking after retired working bullocks, many of them lame or blind.

Typically Jangsa receives the bullocks after the death of the farmer who used them. As aging widows cannot cut and carry the foliage needed to feed their deceased husbands' bullocks in the winter, when grass is scarce, they traditionally either donate the ani-

mals to monasteries, sell them to local butchers, or sell them to traders who walk them down the mountains to be slaughtered in Darjeeling, India.

“The Jangsa Animal Saving Trust,” the organization's brochure recounts, “was established in 2000 by Lama Kunzang Dorjee, after a personal experience where he encountered five bulls who had come to seek refuge in the Jangsa Dechen Choling monastery, where he is the resident head lama. These bulls had escaped from a slaughterhouse and had been miraculously drawn toward the lama's monastery.

“Presently,” the brochure adds, “the Trust maintains about 600 bulls, 40 yaks, 137 pigs, 23 sheep, two goats, and nine ducks in the eastern and northern region of Bhutan. There are also 10 goats, two buffalo, and two pigs cared for in a village near Kalimpong in the hills of West Bengal, India. A further 58 bulls have found a home in Siliguri.

“At the monastery in Kalimpong, where Lama Kunzang resides, 10 bulls and a cow have found refuge from the butcher's axe. A pond at the monastery has hundreds of saved fish, and is a big attraction for visitors and children.”

Kunzang cites as his inspiration his teacher Chatral Rinpoche, a Tibetan Buddhist whose work was praised by Thomas Merton, the Trappist monk (1915-1968) whose writings helped to introduce Tibetan Buddhism to the U.S.

Attending the AR-2007 conference in Anaheim, visiting **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the NOAH Center, Pasado's Safe Haven, and Pigs Peace in the Seattle area, and visiting the Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, Utah, among other stops on his U.S. tour, Kunzang promoted *Compassionate Action*, an anthology by and about Chatral Rinpoche edited by Zach Larson. (122 pages, paperback, \$14.95, from Snow Lion Publications, P.O. Box 6483, Ithaca, NY 14851.) Relatively little of *Compassionate Action* addresses meat-eating and human duties toward animals, but the pages that do are emphatic in rejecting interpretations of Buddhism that accept meat consumption.

Now approximately 95 years old,



Lama Kunzang Dorjee. (Kim Bartlett)

Chatral Rinpoche has long spent whatever money comes his way to purchase fish and birds from markets and release them back to the wild. Practiced as a spiritual and compassionate exercise by devotees of many religions for at least 2,500 years, purchase-for-release tends to be counterproductive, since it gives incentive to the sellers to capture and sell more animals. In recent years purchase-for-release has also been recognized as one of the major means by which non-native animals are introduced to new habitats, much to the consternation of conservationists whose emphasis is on protecting native species, rather than on practicing compassion.

The Jangsa Animal Saving Trust is finding more practical and ecologically compatible means of exemplifying Chatral Rinpoche's teachings. The Thimphu ABC project will be the most ambitious Jangsa project yet, seeking to sterilize and vaccinate approximately 7,000 dogs, to eradicate rabies outbreaks that killed three Bhutanese in 2006.

Rabies has also occurred recently in the towns of Chukha, Samtse, Sarbang, Samdrup Jongkhar, Mongar, Trashiyangtse, and Trashigang. The latter three have each had recent human rabies deaths.

Kunzang wants to extend ABC service to these communities, too—after demonstrating in the national capital that it works.

[Contact: Jungshina, P.O. Box 314, Thimphu, Bhutan; 975-2-323949; <lamakunzang@yahoo.com>; <www.animalsavingtrust.org>.]

Saving wild burros in their native habitat (from page 13)

“Talking to someone about myself beyond my life with burros seems abstract to me now,” Chontos mused in 1993, as one of the first sanctuarians **ANIMAL PEOPLE** profiled. “My life has become burros and their survival. I am a daughter of the pioneers of Washington,” she said, “and continue to live by many of the same values as my great-grandparents, except that during my childhood I found the practice of slaughtering and eating animals abhorrent. As soon as I possibly could,” she recalled, “I became a vegetarian.”

Her first animal rescue, she said, came at age 13, when “I rode my horse, galloping bareback, between a gun-happy bounty hunter and a beautiful coyote I had been watching as she caught and ate grasshoppers.”

Chontos and her former husband founded Wild Burro Rescue at Onalaska, Washington, in 1984. They began by adopting four burros from Death Valley National Park. Four years later, they moved to a larger site in the foothills north of Mount St. Helens.

“We had a dream: to walk away into the mountains and not return,” Chontos said. “We would travel with our burros, and people would be able to see what wonderful animals these wild ones are. We could educate people

about the issues and prove to many that wild burros should never be shot.”

Setting out in July 1990 on a planned two-year trek, the founders participated in the rescue of 123 mustangs in Oregon, then learned that “A herd of wild burros had been rounded up and were being held in northern Nevada, awaiting slaughter. Faced with the choice of saving the burros and taking them to our home in Washington, or continuing our trek, we saved the burros.”

The California Desert Protection Act in 1994 transferred tens of thousands of acres of land from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service, with catastrophic effect for 1,400 wild burros in the Mojave Desert plus 500 in Death Valley. On BLM land, the burros were safe from slaughter, under the 1971 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Protection Act. On National Park Service land, they were deemed an “alien species,” slated for “direct reduction,” a euphemism for shooting them.

Wild Burro Rescue prevented the anticipated burro massacre by negotiating annual burro captures that kept the population from increasing. Relocating from southern Washington to southern California became

essential to sustaining the operation.

While Wild Burro Rescue has succeeded in saving many burros to live out their natural lives in semi-native habitat, Chontos has yet to achieve her greater goal of persuading wildlife policy-makers to appreciate North American wild burros as a uniquely adapted subspecies, some twice the size of the Spanish domestic donkeys from whom they are descended, closer in habits to zebras.

Approximately half of the former wild burro range in the U.S. is now closed to burros, Chontos points out. Fewer wild burros remain in the whole U.S. than existed in southern California alone circa 35 years ago.

Chontos notes that bighorn sheep hunters are especially hostile toward wild burros, as perceived rivals of sheep. While burro management is not a money-maker for wildlife agencies, the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep in 2002 auctioned just 20 bighorn sheep hunting permits for more than \$2 million.

[Contact Wild Burro Rescue c/o P.O. Box 10, Olancho, CA 93549; 760-764-2136; fax 240-244-8498; <wildburrorescue@gmail.com>; <www.wildburrorescue.org>.]



At Wild Burro Rescue. (Kim Bartlett)

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—Wolf Clifton

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Bogus vaccines contribute to human rabies death toll in China

BEIJING—Counterfeit human post-exposure rabies vaccine has resurfaced as a factor in the fast-rising human rabies death toll in China, Chinese media reported in late July 2007. The fake vaccine reappeared two years after officials believed it had all been destroyed, following the deaths of two boys who received worthless “post-exposure” treatment.

Human rabies deaths in China have increased from 163 in 1996 to 3,215 in 2006, with 1,043 in the first five months of 2007. The rise is roughly parallel to the increasing popularity of dogs as pets—but the rabies cases are overwhelmingly concentrated in the southern and coastal areas where dogs are raised for meat. So-called “meat dogs” are not required to be vaccinated, unlike pet dogs.

For the second consecutive year dogs were massacred amid spring rabies panics in Qhongqing province. News coverage of the killing was suppressed, unlike in 2006, when the officially directed dog purges were much criticized by both official news media and on public Internet forums.

Also suppressed—but not entirely—was coverage of an April 24, 2007 incident in Huoyanyuan, Nanjing, in which, according to Wang Feng of the *Southern Metropolis Daily*, a small mob of both men and women whose sleep had been disturbed by barking burned a mother dog and her litter of two.

“After the news story broke in the *Modern Express Daily* on April 26,” Wang Feng wrote, “netizens by the hundreds showed up at the forums to call for respect for life, to establish laws to protect animals, and to condemn” the offenders. The burned dog and her surviving puppy were taken for medical care. Many established an open-air altar to commemorate the dead puppy, with wreaths of fresh flowers. Someone published the identity, work address, home address, office number and personal mobile telephone number of the person who set the dogs on fire. Many people waited outside her office and harassed her when she came out. They published photographs and videos of her on the Internet,” and petitioned her employer and the city of Nanjing to take action against her.

The city responded by proposing an animal control ordinance. Like others in China, it would restrict dog-keeping to approved breeds, of less than 35 centimeters in height. Dogs would be barred from hospitals, schools, museums, theaters, restaurants, shopping malls, hotels, kindergartens, playgrounds, scenic spots, banks, and other financial institutions.

Nanjing officials told *China Daily* that the estimated 93,000 dogs in the city were responsible for 30,000 reported bites in 2006.

A similar ordinance was introduced almost simultaneously in Hangzhou. Estimating that fewer than half of the dogs in Hangzhou are licensed, city spokespersons said that complaints about dogs made up 43% of the total volume of public complaints that the city received.

Beijing had 703,879 licensed dogs as of August 2007, up 100,000 in the first half of the year. Bites were up 34%, to 83,000.

Ex-Thai forest chief indicted for tiger sale

BANGKOK, BEIJING—The National Counter Corruption Commission of Thailand on August 10, 2007 unanimously indicted former Thai forest department chief Plodprasop Suraswadi for a variety of alleged criminal offenses in authorizing the 2002 export of 100 tigers from the Sri Racha Tiger Zoo in Chon Buri to the Sunya Zoo in Hainan, China.

“Under the [Thai] Wildlife Protection Act, exports of protected wildlife can be made government-to-government for research and conservation purposes,” the *Bangkok Post* explained. “However, the NCCC found that the tiger export was commercial, because Sri Racha Tiger Zoo and Sunya Zoo are private entities.”

Responded Plodprasop, “The tigers were not from the wild and not native to Thailand. The Sri Racha Tiger Zoo imported Bengal tigers and raised and bred them for 10 years.”

While there are several generally recognized tiger subspecies, the international Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species gives them all Appendix I protection. The Thai Wildlife Protection Act is the national instrument for enforcing CITES.

Plodprasop’s indictment was the latest of a series of summer 2007 rebukes to proponents of reopening international trade in tigers and tiger parts. In June 2007 the CITES triennial Conference of the Parties adopted a resolution stating that, “Tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.”

“By some accounts, the market in tiger-driven medicine brought in more than \$12 million a year before China banned the sale of tiger parts in 1993,” reported Jonathan Adams of *Newsweek*. “Now some

Chinese officials—under fierce lobbying from tiger farmers and would-be parts peddlers—want to regain that lost market. Legalizing the trade, they argue, could actually help protect wild tigers by reducing the incentive for illegal poaching.”

Countered Wildlife Protection Society of India founder Belinda Wright, “In India you can poison a tiger for less than a dollar. “Raising one in captivity will cost \$3,500 to \$10,000.”

The Wildlife Institute of India in early August reported that India now has only 1,300 to 1,500 tigers in the wild, down from 3,508 in 1997 and 4,334 in 1989.

“The four key tiger bearing states—Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan—have only 417 tigers,” wrote Kalyan Ray of the *Deccan Herald*. “The last census, carried out in 2001-02, showed a count of 1,233 in these four states.”

Despite the decline, India is still believed to have more than half of all the wild tigers left in the world. China has fewer than 50.

China, however, has more than 5,000 captive-bred tigers, including more than 800 each at the Guilin Xionsen Tigers & Bears Mountain Village and the Heilongjiang Siberian Tiger Park in Harbin. The former also has about 400 bears. Relative to their size, the animals “have about the same amount of space as a battery hen,” reported Danny Penman of the *Daily Mail* in March 2007.

The Heilongjiang Siberian Tiger Park has reportedly frozen the remains of more than 100 dead tigers, in anticipation of sales opportunities if CITIES can be persuaded to downlist tigers.

Shanghai cat rescue is biggest yet in China

SHANGHAI—Rallied by Duo Zirong, 39, “cat lovers in suburban Shanghai’s Xinzhuang area stopped a truck carrying more than 800 cats to diners in Guangdong Province,” reported Zhang Kun of *China Daily* on July 10, 2007. The rescue was at least the third by opponents of cat-eating since June 2006, when activists stormed and closed the newly opened Fang Company Cat Meatball Restaurant in Shenzhen, winning a promise from the owner that he would no longer sell cat meat.

“Duo called the police and stopped one truck,” Zhang wrote. “According to Duo, three trucks loaded with cats left before the police took action. Duo claimed many of the cats were hers, but the cat dealers presented documents showing they were from a farm in Anhui Province, with inspection and vaccination papers.”

“We felt helpless, as China does not have a law against animal abuse,” Shanghai Animal Protection Association representative Tao Rongfang told Lu Feiran of *Shanghai Daily*.

The truckers demanded 30,000 yuan for the cats, worth nearly \$4,000 U.S. A crowd gathered, passed the hat, and eventually bought the cats for about \$1,300, of which one unidentified woman put up half.

Recalled Zhang Kun, “Earlier this year, a truck packed with cats was stopped in Suzhou, where two crates of cats were rescued. A train car was found to be loaded with live cats in the Shanghai South Railway Station, but left despite protests from local animal protectors.”

“In June,” Zhang Kun wrote, “some volunteers working with the cats in Duo’s house opened the gate to let out nearly 200 cats. Duo spotted the truck while searching for the cats.”

Shanghai Daily appealed for cat adopters and donors to help accommodate the rescued cats.

“Anyone brave enough to venture into Duo’s house would call it a nightmare,” *Shanghai Daily* reported. “In addition to healthy cats, there are sick, lame, blind and paralyzed cats and kittens. Some are in heat. Animals are crammed into the dim, dilapidated two-story house, with wire mesh on the windows. Sheets are laundered daily but get filthy; the stench is unbearable. Duo is up to her neck cleaning, washing sheets, feeding milk to sick kittens, spraying room deodorizer, bathing the cats and saying sorry to neighbors for the trouble her cats cause. Her cats can sleep until their natural wake-up time and eat balanced, healthy pet food, while Duo gets only three to four hours sleep each night and eats instant noodles.”

A former medical doctor, Duo is a Buddhist member of the Daur-speaking ethnic minority. Fewer than 140,000 Daur speakers remain in China, Mongolia, and parts of Russia. Her entire family are involved in cat rescue. They have moved “about a dozen times” due to friction with neighbors over cat odors and noises since Duo began taking in cats circa 1996, Lu Feiran wrote.

Her first cat was tortured and blinded by juvenile delinquents. That was a foreshadowing of the fate of her mother-in-law, Huo Huiying, a retired civil engineer.

“In July 2004, not long after Duo and her cats moved to Datong Village, Fengxian District,” *Shanghai Daily* recounted, “Huo Huiying was beaten blind in a fight with neighbors who demanded money from Duo if she wanted to keep her cats alive. For Duo and her family, the next three years were a time of terror, extortion, death threats, threats to poison and kill the cats, and many fights and sieges by neighbors and urban management inspectors. There were power and water cut-offs,” and more than 30 cats were killed by the would-be extortionists.”

Sympathetic coverage of Duo’s efforts by a variety of media was soon followed by explicit exposés in *Shanghai Daily*, the *New Express*, and syndicated coverage from the Xinhua news agency of how cats are tortured and boiled alive in Guangzhou restaurants. Furious reader response encouraged *Shanghai Daily* columnist Wang Yong to denounce the treatment of farm animals and fish.

While the rapid growth of dog-keeping in China has received official notice and increasingly friendly media coverage for nearly 10 years, the parallel rise in popularity of cat-keeping has only recently gained recognition, driven by the emergence of a well-developed network of web sites, online forums, and university-based cat clubs.

Beijing, one of the few Chinese cities with a western-style animal control department and dog shelters, is planning to add cat facilities, *China Daily* reported in April 2007. Subsidized clinics are to sterilize and vaccinate cats at half price, *China Daily* said. Beijing has as many as 400,000 feral cats, according to the Small Animal Protection Association.

The report closely followed a mention that “A pet hospital in Qingdao in eastern Shandong Province is now providing a free sterilization program for stray cats.”

Animal control reform in Kyiv

KYIV—Kyiv mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi on July 4, 2007 announced at a public hearing that was broadcast on live television that he had fired city animal control director Myron Kuchynskyi for cruelty to animals and multiple counts of veterinary and financial misconduct.

“This announcement was wildly applauded by those present—300-plus persons,” SOS Ukraine founder and television journalist Tamara Tarnavska told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“The number of telephone calls to the TV station and ratings of the program were overwhelming,” Tarnavska continued.

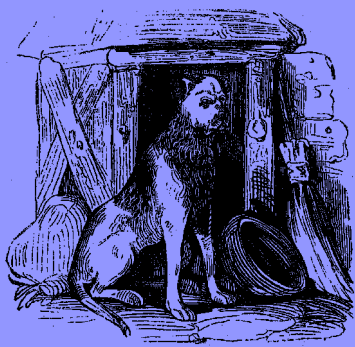
Encouraged by the response, Chernovetskyi and vice mayor Irena Kilchytka at a second public hearing held on July 11, also broadcast live, endorsed a mass animal sterilization program, adding a sterilization clinic to the municipal shelter in Borodianka, and opening a shelter with 30 to 50 kennels in every district of the city.

“After 15 years of battling with the functionaries,” Tarnavska said, “animal defenders were able to demand publication of realistic data as to how many animals were being destroyed, and how much money this is costing the city budget. Under pressure from civic animal rights organizations, the city administration conducted a serious audit” of the Kyiv animal control program, which confirmed multiple alleged violations of Ukrainian law, including use of a paralytic drug to kill impounded animals.

Kyiv animal advocates have proposed introducing a neuter/return program for feral cats and street dogs, at least until the entire city is served by shelters. “At this time the proposal is under review,” Tarnawska said.

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Noah's Wish settles with California A.G.

SACRAMENTO—The animal disaster relief charity Noah's Wish is back in business, after six months of investigation and restructuring mandated by California attorney general Jerry Brown.

"We have entered into an agreement that will permit Noah's Wish to continue serving the animal victims of disasters," the Noah's Wish board of directors posted on July 27, 2007.

"Under the settlement agreement," reported Associated Press writer Laura Kurtzman, "the state will take control of the \$4 million," of about \$8.4 million raised in appeals for help for the animal victims of Hurricane Katrina, "that has not yet been spent. It is supposed to be given to help the animal victims of Katrina, which happened nearly two years ago, as well as to build a new animal shelter in Slidell, Louisiana."

Added Christine Harvey of the St. Tammany bureau of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, "The agreement stipulates that Slidell will receive \$1 million to build a new animal shelter, though city finance director Sharon Howes said this week that the California attorney general's office is willing to redirect as much as \$3 million" for the shelter construction. California attorney general's office spokesperson Gareth Lacy told Harvey that he couldn't confirm that Slidell would receive the full \$3 million, since the money first must be received from Noah's Wish.

Wrote Harvey, "The agreement stipulates that the organization must transfer \$3.8 million by Aug. 17, 2007, with the remaining \$200,000 due next July. The agreement also states that [Noah's Wish founder Terri] Crisp may not serve as an 'officer, director or trustee' with any nonprofit organization for five years, though she already has started a new organization called Animal Resources, which has a purpose similar to Noah's Wish. She said the attorney general's office knows about her involvement at Animal Resources and approves, as she is not on the board and has no fiduciary responsibilities."

"Terri Crisp was chosen to fill the position of disaster operations director," Animal Resources acting board chair Dean

Richman told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Animal Resources lists Sheri Thompson as disaster operations assistant director. *Sacramento Business Journal* staff writer Kelly Johnson reported in March 2007 that, "For the second half of 2005," in which most of the Katrina donations arrived, "Noah's Wish paid \$405,948 in salaries and compensation, according to an IRS Form 990 supplied by a former employee. Crisp received \$140,900. The next highest compensation went to Sheri Thompson at \$118,125."

The Form 990 that Johnson obtained is not yet accessible via <www.Guide-star.org>, which posts charities' annual filings for the Internal Revenue Service.

"The attorney general's office notes in the agreement that Noah's Wish spent about \$1.4 million on Katrina relief efforts," wrote Harvey, "and has \$4 million left in the bank. It appears the organization spent the remaining money 'primarily to further the general charitable purpose of Noah's Wish, including overhead costs,' the agreement states."

But many expenditures were questioned by former Noah's Wish administrative assistant Thea Martin and former former Noah's Wish bookkeeper Mina Johnson. Among the questioned items, Crisp hired her daughter, Jennifer McKim, as communications director, and hired McKim's boyfriend to do database development.

She also "bought a new, fully loaded Ford Excursion for herself and a Nissan Titan truck for McKim, as well as horse trailers and an all-terrain vehicle that Johnson said Crisp's children rode on her property," summarized Harvey.

"The settlement includes a provision that Noah's Wish must review its vehicle inventory to determine whether the vehicles purchased after Katrina are being used in accordance with the organization's charitable purpose, and present its findings to the attorney general's office for approval," Harvey added. "Should the investigators determine the vehicles were not a legitimate purchase, Noah's Wish must sell the vehicles and transfer the money from the sale to the attorney general's office for distribution to charity."

House Rabbit Society is hopping mad at PetSmart

PHOENIX—Just as PetSmart Charities should have been basking in success, the nonprofit subsidiary of the PetSmart pet supply chain found itself uncomfortably caught between the parent company and the humane community.

PetSmart Charities on June 25, 2007 celebrated the three millionth animal adoption through the 928 PetSmart in-store adoption centers since the PetSmart chain started in 1987—five years before PetSmart Charities was formed to manage the adoption program and help fund the work of the 3,400 participating animal welfare agencies.

Within days, however, PetSmart announced that it "is testing the sale of spayed and neutered dwarf rabbits as part of the selection of small pets we offer for sale," at 25 selected stores."

PetSmart sales of other small mammals, birds, and reptiles have already occasioned considerable friction with humane organizations. PetSmart Charities was founded in part to ease the relationship between the for-profit store chain and the humane community—and all but one of the five heads of PetSmart Charities to date has recommended that PetSmart stop selling any animals, each has told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

"Our decision to sell dwarf rabbits does not change our relationship with adoption agencies who facilitate rabbit adoptions," PetSmart claimed, mentioning that it "partners with 40 rabbit-only shelters and many other rabbit-friendly shelters in the U.S. and Canada," and has helped to adopt out 2,900 rabbits since 2002.

But House Rabbit Society president Kathleen Wilsbach told PetSmart chief operating officer Robert F. Moran that, "To say that

we are disappointed by PetSmart's violation of its own commitment to save rescued animals would be a gross understatement."

The House Rabbit Society statement was soon seconded and amplified by the Best Friends Animal Society, followed by many other leading animal advocacy organizations. "Although spaying/neutering does prevent reproduction, it does not prevent—or even acknowledge—the myriad other reasons why rabbits end up in shelters," Wilsbach wrote.

"Contrary to popular belief, rabbits are not low-maintenance," Wilsbach continued. "Compared to dogs and cats, they are high-maintenance. While you maintain that your veterinarians will teach your staff about rabbit care, pet store staff are generally short-term or part-time employees, often teenagers, most of whom have never lived with even one rabbit...They simply do not have the knowledge, skills, or inclination to properly educate the public about these complex animals."

"We were asked to provide our input on the dwarf rabbit test," PetSmart Charities director Susana Della Maddelena told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We advised PetSmart that the introduction of any new species into the stores would invoke a negative response from the animal welfare community. Our role is to advise in these situations," she said, "but we do not have final authority over the decisions made. We are planning to compile information regarding rabbit relinquishment for PetSmart to analyze as part of the test."

ANIMAL PEOPLE found in a 2006 review of data from 15 dog-and-cat humane societies that accept rabbits that rabbits were about 3% of their total animal intake. They received from three to 76 rabbits, with a median and average of 34.

Wildlife Fund Thailand shuts down

BANGKOK—Wildlife Fund Thailand president Pisit na Phattalung on June 19, 2007 abruptly suspended WFT operations and laid off all 40 staff and volunteers, effective on July 27.

"Pisit cited financial constraints. WFT staff were skeptical," reported Apinya Wipatayotin of the *Bangkok Post*, "saying Pisit used the financial problems to get rid of staff who had accused him of misconduct—such as involvement [through his private company Asian Wildlife Consultancy] in the export of eight Thai elephants to Australian zoos [in November 2006], providing rare species of wildlife to the Chiang Mai Night Safari park, and using his position as foundation president to attain a post at the privately-run Siam Ocean World aquarium."

Former WFT secretary general Surapol Duangkhae "accused Pisit of having a conflict of interest and not being fit for the presidency of the organization," Apinya wrote. "In May, Pisit transferred Surapol and his aide Hannarong Yaowaloes to inactive posts. Their relationship soured when the two criticized Pisit's wildlife trading business."

"We will file a complaint with the court because his wildlife trading business is against the foundation's objectives," Surapol threatened.

Pisit reportedly also owns a restaurant called Puen Deratchan, which includes a private mini-zoo.

Ten Thai organizations including Friends of the Asian elephant in May 2007 announced they would boycott involvement with WFT unless Pisit resigns.

The WFT closure may jeopardize the

13-year-old Khao Phaeng Ma reforestation and wild gaur rehabilitation project, Apinya said.

"Once a bald mountain, Khao Phaeng Ma is now covered with dense forest. The number of gaur has increased from less than 10 a decade ago to more than 100 today," Apinya recounted.

However, "Khao Phaeng Ma is now under threat from encroachment and wildlife poaching due to staff shortages," Apinya continued, "because the National Park, Wildlife & Plant Conservation Department could not provide staff" to replace WFT personnel.

"WFT executives reportedly circulated a letter to the project's financial supporters, informing them that the foundation is no longer responsible for Khao Phaeng Ma," Apinya said.

Hannarong told the Bangkok *Nation* that while Pisit claimed WFT had run out of cash, it had about \$125,000 each in donated cash, bonds, and an unused building fund, about \$19,000 in money allocated toward unpaid salaries, and a headquarters worth about \$475,000.

"Should the foundation be dissolved, these assets must be returned to the Siam Society or the family of Dr. Boonsong Lekagul," said Hannarong.

Boonsang (1907-1992) started WFT in 1983 under the patronage of Queen Sirikit, 21 years after founding the Bangkok Bird Club. The Bird Club was reputedly the first indigenous Thai conservation society in modern times. The organization was long associated with the World Wildlife Fund, which is now represented in Thailand by the WWF Thailand Country Programme.

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Laboratory surgeries on “adopted” dogs shock Sri Lanka *(from page 1)*

“At the Peradeniya Police Station, where we lodged a complaint, Rajapakse said the surgery was carried out to do hysterectomies,” Fernando alleged. “To the dean of the veterinary faculty, he said that the surgery involved removal of the spleens and admitted that he had lied to KACPAW when he took the dogs. However, it has been established through scanning that both dogs who survived surgery had their spleens intact. Rajapakse also said the dog who died did so soon after surgery, whereas she actually died the next morning, obviously after much suffering.

“Wasantha Kumara refused to divulge the nature of the surgery done on the two surviving dogs when he was asked by the dean of the veterinary faculty to provide the information, which was crucial to treat the two dogs,” Fernando added. “We were compelled to request the Governor of the Central Province, Tikiri Kobbekaduwa, to intervene.”

Said Rajapakse in a June 7, 2007 written statement, “I completely assure and prove that these three dogs were used for experimentation in the welfare and betterment of animals and veterinary medicine. I was doing a trial of therapy for diabetes mellitus with medicines of plant origin and gene therapy. In the first dog the adrenal gland was removed. In the second dog the pancreas was removed. Nothing was removed from the third dog,” who was “subjected to exploratory surgery as a control,” Rajapakse asserted.

“Before starting this experiment we extensively searched for any legal or ethical parameters in animal experimentation,” Rajapakse insisted. “And we were unable to find any guidelines or restrictions on animal experimentation in Sri Lanka. On those grounds we initiated the experimentation, with the available guidelines of animal experimentation in some other countries.”

Rajapakse’s entire explanation raised questions. The American Diabetes Association warned in 2000 that while diabetics often buy herbal supplements that they hope will help them, some herbal supplements can cause harmful responses, and the effects of most are completely untested.

Explained Bernadette Mariott, former director of the Office of Dietary Supplements at the National Institutes of Health, to CNN medical correspondent Holly Firfer, “There are a number of botanical supplements that are marketed in this country and throughout the world as helpful for diabetics, but we have very little data on these in terms of scientific clinical trials.”

Rajapakse may have been hoping to fill some of the gaps in knowledge. He claimed to have published scientific papers on herbal therapy for diabetes. However, neither Fernando, **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, nor animal

advocate Michael O’Leary, an Irish resident of Sri Lanka, were able to find any.

Immediately evident, however, was that obtaining the dogs under false pretenses and beginning the experiments without review by an Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee would have violated laws in the U.S., Britain, most of Europe, and India, and could exclude publication of the findings in reputable medical journals. In addition, using random-source dogs at all in pharmacological research is now widely discouraged because of the risk that unknown genetic factors or diseases could influence the findings.

Pointed out O’Leary, “Rajapakse should be familiar with U.K. procedures, as he claims to have spent some time in 1985-1986 at the University of Cambridge Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine. The U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act became law in 1986. It would be very odd if an ambitious veterinary practitioner studying in England at the very time that the Act came into force would not have got wind of it.

“Rajapakse in his bio data states that he is a member of the editorial board for *BioMed Central Veterinary Research*, U.K.,” O’Leary added. “The BMC editorial board provides that ‘Submission of a manuscript to *BMC Veterinary Research* implies that...any experimental research on animals must follow internationally recognized guidelines... Manuscripts may be rejected if the editorial office considers that the research has not been carried out within an ethical framework, e.g. if the severity of the experimental procedure is not justified by the value of the knowledge gained.’ It is ironic,” O’Leary told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “that Rajapakse did not himself adhere to those guidelines.”

Exposés

Sagarica Rajakarunanayake, president of the Sri Lankan charity Sathva Mithra [*means Friends of Animals*], exposed the Wussie case in the June 8, 2007 edition of *The Island* newspaper. Marisa de Silva of the *Sunday Times* followed up two days later.

“We are currently conducting an inquiry into the matter,” Sri Lanka Veterinary Council registrar K.N.T. Kandaragama told de Silva. “Once a comprehensive probe has been conducted, the Council will take the necessary course of action,” Kandaragama added, noting that he could not “give a definite time frame as to when the investigation will be complete.”

Rajapakse told de Silva that he hoped to “take action against these people who are trying to defame me.”

During the next few days Fernando and O’Leary received several e-mails purporting to be from prominent scientists and scientific organizations, warning them against

defaming Rajapakse. Checking with the alleged senders, O’Leary discovered that many and perhaps all were forged.

“It’s not my job to question the origin or the parentage of the animal brought to me for surgery or otherwise,” Wasantha Kumara told de Silva, disregarding that laws and scientific standards in most of the developed world require researchers to identify the sources of experimental subjects.

For example, the U.S. Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 established that researchers have an obligation to establish that they legally possess any animal they use. The act was amended into the present Animal Welfare Act in 1971. Further amendments in 1990 extended the professional obligation to ensure that stolen animals are not used.

Observed Save Our Friends Association founder Eva Ruppel, better known in Sri Lanka as Padma, “We have no proper laws in Sri Lanka banning or regulating the use of animals in research. But having deceived KACPAW to give these dogs for adoption while in fact they were taken straight to the government hospital to be cut up is illegal even with the present legislation.”

Said Wasantha Kumara, “There was no tattoo or identification number on the animals to imply that they belonged to KACPAW. Since the animals were brought to me by a researcher such as Professor Rajapakse, who is held in high repute in veterinary circles, I just did as I was instructed. This looks to be a case of professional jealousy,” Wasantha Kumara claimed, “as the government hospital gets more business than the veterinary teaching hospital,” but Fernando pointed out that the teaching hospital has all the business it wants.

As well as heading the government hospital, Wasantha Kumara is a director of Pets V Care, a firm often hired by animal welfare projects. A Pets V Care spokesperson anonymously stipulated that Wasantha Kumara is not on the Pets V Care working staff.

“Follow the Buddha”

Learning that Rajapakse was due to speak on June 22, 2007 at the First North American Parasitology Congress, organised by Sociedad Mexicana de Parasitología A.C. and the American Society of Parasitologists, Indian legislator and People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi forwarded details of the Wussie case to conference co-chair Ana Flisser Steinbruch.

“We are presently taking measures regarding Professor Rajapakse,” Flisser responded, but at the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** press date Flisser had not yet responded to inquiries about what those measures were.

Rajapakse on June 15, 2007 sent Mrs. Gandhi his resumé with an appeal for

help. Responded Mrs. Gandhi, “I would suggest that you resign and go and follow the spirit of the Buddha, whose foremost tenet was not to kill.”

Resumé

Rajapakse’s resumé stated that he held a “Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” obtained from the University of Cambridge/University of Peradeniya 1992.”

“We have no record of the above named as having registered as a student at this university,” Cambridge senior records assistant Katherine Johnson told O’Leary.

Fernando eventually established that Rajapakse “was involved in something called a sandwich program, in which he did part of his research under a supervisor in a department or laboratory at Cambridge.”

Rajapakse’s resumé and rationalizations also raised questions about his past research. “One allegation,” Rajapakse wrote, “is that some time ago I exported 200 canine kidneys. In real terms we sent 86 canine samples (parts of brain, tongue, and heart) to the USDA for screening for a serious and devastating zoonotic disease, toxoplasmosis.”

According to a report of the findings published in a 2007 edition of the journal *Veterinary Parasitology*, “Eighty-six street dogs caught by the municipality were euthanized by intravenous injection of sodium thiopentone...At necropsy, brain, heart, tongue and blood samples were collected and sent” to USDA Agricultural Research Service biological science laboratory technician Katherine Hopkins.

Hopkins had no comment when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** informed her by e-mail that the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service on February 18, 1993 began enforcing the 1990 amendments to the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit imports of dogs and dog parts from foreign sources that fail to meet U.S. tracking standards.

The 1990 amendments have not been repealed. USDA-APHIS claims to enforce even stricter biosecurity standards now than in 1993, but Animal Welfare Institute president Cathy Liss opined that, “USDA is [now] not concerned with records or sources for dogs and cats obtained outside the U.S. For example,” Liss said, “a Class B dealer in Arizona has been obtaining dead cats from Mexico for sale as biological specimens. Records showing their origin are not required or checked.”

Nonetheless, Liss pledged that AWI would “follow up with Dr. Hopkins.”

“Wussie is fine,” Fernando updated shortly before press time. “I still see Polly wagging her tail and jumping up and down. I will fight this case to the bitter end,” she pledged. —Merritt Clifton

Sri Lankan district court ruling puts Kandy Animal Birth Control program in jeopardy

KANDY, Sri Lanka—A District Court ruling that there are too many dogs at large in Kandy may permit the Kandy Municipal Corporation to resume killing street dogs on October 5, 2007, 60 days after the ruling was issued.

The killing would contravene a national no-kill policy proclaimed in June 2006 by Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa, who reaffirmed it in July 2007—but Kandy has defied official policy to

kill dogs before.

“The Kandy Animal Birth Control program started in 2002, with municipal cooperation,” summarized Eva Ruppel (“Padma”) of the Save Our Friends Association. When KMC cooperation was discontinued, we went to the courts to prevent the killing of dogs. Despite a court-order in our favor, the KMC killed 360 dogs in August 2005.”

ABC supporters stopped the killing by charging Kandy officials with contempt of court. The August 5 ruling dismissed the contempt charges, and gave the ABC program 60 days to reduce the dog population.

“Of course we appealed,” Ruppel posted to the Asia Animal Protection Network. “We have to safeguard the 10,000 dogs who have been already sterilized and vaccinated. We have no intention of giving up the only sensible way to stabilize the population and to prevent rabies.

Kandy had no human rabies cases since 2002,” Ruppel added, “and dog bite cases have drastically decreased. We have no reason to return the dog pound to the KMC and let them start killing again.”

Ruppel attributed the recent reappearance in Kandy of large numbers of mother dogs with puppies to dumping, probably by dogcatchers from other cities—a common problem in many economically disadvantaged nations, as communities without effective Animal Birth Control programs try to relocate unwanted animals to communities that have them.

Nationally, according to Smriti Daniel of the *Kandy Times*, “The government is relying heavily on contraceptive depo-provera injections for female dogs. Between 2005 and 2006, the number of injections administered jumped from 5,651 to 49,968. While simply injecting dogs may seem the lesser of two evils,

the other choice being exterminating them,” Daniel added, “animal activists have voiced serious concerns over the use of the injection, believing it to be seriously detrimental to the dog’s health, possibly responsible for malignant mammary tumors in the animals.”

Said Champa Fernando of KACPAW, the largest animal welfare organization in Kandy, “At the moment we are unable to urge the government to stop its chemical

birth control program, given the no-kill policy, the [reported] increase in the dog population [to about 2.5 million nationally], and the increase in rabies incidence in the country.”

Director of Public Health Veterinary Services P.A.L. Harischandra told Daniel that Sri Lanka had 73 human rabies cases in 2006, up from 55 in 2005, when the dog population may have been temporarily reduced by the Indian Ocean tsunami of December 26, 2004.

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U.S. shelter killing toll drops to 3.7 million dogs & cats

U.S. animal shelters as of mid-2007 are killing fewer dogs and cats than at any time in at least the past 37 years, according to the 15th annual **ANIMAL PEOPLE** evaluation of the most recent available shelter data.

The rate of shelter killing per 1,000 Americans, now at 12.5, is the lowest since data collected by John Marbanks in 1947-1950 suggested a rate of about 13.5—at a time when animal control in much of the U.S. was still handled by private contractors, who often simply killed strays or sold them to laboratories instead of taking them to shelters, and unwanted puppies and kittens were frequently drowned.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projection each year is based on compilations of the tolls from every open admission shelter handling significant numbers of animals in specific cities, counties, or states. The sample base each year is proportionately weighted to ensure regional balance. Only data from the preceding three fiscal years is included.

Using a three-year rolling projection tends to level out flukes that might result from including different cities, counties, and states each year, but has the disadvantage of sometimes not showing significant changes in trends until a year or two after they start. Thus the effects of the post-2001 slump in funding for dog and cat sterilization programs only became evident in 2004. Comparably, trends involving Internet-assisted adoption, adoption transport, feral cats and pit bull terriers that were just gathering momentum in 2004 are major influences on the 2007 findings.

As of 2004, about a third of all U.S. dog and cat adoptions were believed to be Internet-assisted, via web sites where animals' photographs and descriptions are posted. Anecdotally, at least two thirds of adoptions are Internet-assisted today, with dogs benefitting most, since dog adopters are

more likely to be seeking a specific breed or mix, who may be readily found only through web-searching.

Adoption transport also chiefly benefits dogs, since cats are still abundant in all parts of the U.S., but small dogs, puppies, and purebreds are relatively scarce in shelters along both coasts and in the northern Midwest.

Soaring shelter receipts of pit bull terriers in 2001-2004 outraced progress in sterilizing feral cats, causing total shelter killing to soar by the end of 2004 to the highest level since 1997. For the first and only time since **ANIMAL PEOPLE** began quantifying shelter killing, more dogs were killed in 2004 than cats. The 1997 toll was 53% cats, 47% dogs, about the same balance as had prevailed since the mid-1980s, but the 2004 toll was reversed, at 47% cats, 53% dogs.

About half of the dogs who were killed in 2004 were pit bull terriers, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** confirmed by surveying shelter directors in 23 representative metropolitan areas.

Salathia Bryant of the *Houston Chronicle* was shocked in February 2007 to discover that local shelter intakes of pit bulls had increased from 5% of all dogs in 2000 to 15% in 2002 and 27% in 2006. Actually this was right on the national norms found by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** nearly two years earlier.

Los Angeles residents were shocked in June 2007 when Department of Animal Regulation chief Ed Boks lamented that 40% of the dogs who were killed in the city shelters during the preceding year were pit bulls. Yet as many as 70% of the dogs killed in some other major cities are pit bulls—who are reportedly 65% of the animal control dog intake in Milwaukee, and may account for more than two-thirds of the dog intake in Detroit and Philadelphia.

While pit bull intake has not slowed down since 2004, and appears to be still rising, the total canine death toll

in U.S. shelters has fallen by more than 750,000 since 2004, with pit bulls the main beneficiaries.

Increasing use of standardized temperament tests to determine whether dogs are safe for adoption appears to be driving the change. Traditionally, behavioral suitability for adoption tended to be judged from anecdotal assessments by animal control officers, kennel workers, and people who surrendered animals to shelters. Relatively few shelters ever categorically refused to adopt out pit bulls and other breeds of dog who are considered high-risk, though some did and still do, but the breeds of dogs tended to weigh heavily, if not always consciously, in the judgments.

When most shelters were killing a relatively high percentage of the dogs received, and no one breed predominated, this was not an issue. As pit bulls came to disproportionately fill shelters, however, concern about “breed discrimination” on the one hand and soaring liability insurance costs on the other caused shelter directors to seek ways to support their decisions. Standardized temperament tests offer shelters a way to explain in relatively objective terms why a particular dog may be unsuitable for adoption, and to adopt out some pit bulls with confidence that the adoptions will succeed.

Whether temperament tests really prevent dog attacks and liability is still a matter of debate, with several relevant court cases pending. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in January/February 2002 published data suggesting that the breed-specific patterns of fatal and disfiguring attacks among dogs who have cleared behavioral screening are the same as among all dogs.

However, though pit bulls tend to flunk the most popular standardized behavioral tests more often than any other breed, enough pit bulls pass that they have become the breed
(continued on page 19)

ABC & clandestine captures drive Bangalore street dog population down by half since mid-2006

BANGALORE—A door-to-door canvas of 3.2 million Bangalore households in mid-June 2007 found just 49,283 dogs—including 17,480 pet dogs, and only 24,491 street dogs, fewer than half the 56,500 estimated to be at large a year earlier.

The plummeting street dog population attested to both the efficacy of the much-maligned Animal Birth Control programs in Bangalore, and the indiscriminating tactics of dogcatchers who were deployed repeatedly in the first half of 2007 to purge dogs.

ANIMAL PEOPLE surveys of dogs in representative Bangalore neighborhoods found in January 2007 that the ABC programs managed by Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, Karuna, and the Animal Rights Fund appeared to have sterilized between 70% and 90% of the free-roaming dog population. But dog pogroms following fatal dog attacks in January and March 2007 jeopardized the programs' success by killing dogs who had already been sterilized.

Officially the killing stopped and ABC resumed in May 2007, but “Bangalore dogs are still being killed and relocated in big numbers,” Animal Rights Fund volunteer Poornima Harish told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in late July. “This time it is more lethal, as there is no local, national or international brouhaha. On paper, the dog management program in

Bangalore is ABC. But the essence of ABC is that the sterilized dogs should be returned to their places after the operation. This is not happening. After a dog is operated on, the same dog is picked up again and never returned. With new dogs entering each territory and birthing litters, we will never be able to prove that ABC is a success,” Harish said.

Drivers and dogcatchers caught in the act by ARF volunteers at first claimed to be working for ARF. Photos documented that most of the dogs they caught were already sterilized. Bangalore officials eventually admitted that eight private vans had been hired to clandestinely capture “diseased” dogs.

After the *Deccan Herald* columnist “Madhumitha B” in late July 2007 exposed the dogcatching operation, “Joint commissioner B.V. Kulkarni told this reporter that he has instructed his health officers to withdraw the private vehicles from city service,” the columnist wrote. However, “When asked to show a copy of the official order, the joint commissioner claimed it’s not possible,” Mahumitha B added. “CUPA honorary secretary Sanober Bharucha said CUPA had received no notification. Other city officials and the animal husbandry department claimed to be completely unaware of the order.”

The clandestine dogcatching apparently began soon after the May 2007 publica-

tion of a highly critical performance audit of the Bangalore ABC programs, by a committee chaired by M.K. Sudarshan of the Association for the Prevention and Control of Rabies in India. Skeptical of ABC from the introduction of the approach, APCRI has worked closely with the anti-ABC organization Stray Dog Free Bangalore.

Aware that Sudarshan has alleged a rabies risk in Bangalore in recent years even though no cases had occurred in areas served by ABC, Harish in July 2007 discovered that Sudarshan has been overstating the number of human rabies deaths in Bangalore for at least 12 years. In 1995, for example, in a publication sponsored by makers of human post-exposure vaccines, Sudarshan “said there are 70-100 rabies deaths in Bangalore every year,” Harish told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The rabies deaths figure for that year is 21. I got the documents from the Isolation Hospital under the Right to Information Act with the official seal,” Harish said, sending copies of all the documents.

But a four-year-old boy named Ajay died of rabies in Bangalore on June 4, after suffering a bite in Kurubarahalli, an outlying suburb. He received three injections of an ineffective post-exposure vaccine from a “private medical practitioner near his house,” *The Hindu* reported. His parents Manjula and Manjunath took Ajay to a hospital only after

the onset of rabies symptoms—and then the first hospital they visited did not have anti-rabies vaccine in stock.

Killing dogs for population control has been illegal in India for 10 years, but the federal law is little enforced. Dog attacks are typically followed by dog massacres, as in Kunnamkulam, Kerala, where “1,000 or more dogs were killed,” according to local activist Ramesh Ravindra. As in Bangalore, the dog attacks occurred in the vicinity of illegal disposal of meat waste, Ravindra said. The dog purge ended only when the hired dogcatchers were solicited to kill dogs in another community, Ravindra added.

In at least two cases, at Paramathi near Namakkal in June and Tambaram near Chennai in July, dogcatchers of the Narikurava tribe produced local opposition to the purges when they reportedly shot dogs in public places with homemade guns, left wounded dogs to die, and shot birds as well.

“With U.S. Agency for International Development support and guidance the Indian NGO ExNoRa [has] helped transform the nomadic Narikuravas from largely unemployed slum dwellers to organized ‘street beautifiers,’ who earn a living by collecting, composting, and recycling waste,” USAid Global Environment Center deputy assistant administrator David F. Hales recently wrote.

Sofia street dog population is also down by half

SOFIA—A 10-month municipal sterilization drive has cut the street dog population of Sofia, the Bulgarian capital city, from more than 20,000 to just over 11,000, mayor Boyko Borissov and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences chair Ivan Yuhnovski told the Focus news agency on July 12, 2007.

The Sofia municipal company Ekoravnovesie sterilized 3862 dogs and euthanized 852 due to illness, injury, or dangerous temperament, said company director Miroslav Naidenov.

The number of dogs killed was approximately 10% of the totals killed in 2003 and 2004, according to data sent to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by Sofia activist Alina Lilova in January 2005. “From 1999 though 2002, 45,000 dogs were killed,” Lilova added.

The rapidity of the street dog decline may reflect a marked increase in traffic. While the human population of Bulgaria is among the fastest falling in Europe, the population of Sofia has increased since 2002 from 1.2 million to 1.4 million. Car ownership and use have increased even faster.

A more sinister possibility may be that although the Sofia pounds are no longer selling dog and cat fur, fur dealers are still exploiting the street animal population.

“There is a massive industry based on the systematic killing of dogs,” claimed Bulgarian SPCA president Yordanka Zrcheva in December 2005. “There are dog fur factories all over Bulgaria, and they produce all sorts of items, like fur coats, leather shoes and bags made from dogs, and so on.”

Agreed Doctors for Animals spokesperson Rumi Becker, “The so-called fur lords who run the factories are farming the dogs on the street.”

About one million people among the Bulgarian human population of about 7.4 million people keep unsterilized female cats and dogs, Animal Programs Foundation founder Emil Kuzmanov told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“Pet registration, dog and cat population control, and supervision of human activity involving animals have been neglected for nearly 20 years,” Kuzmanov said. “Most of Bulgaria is not served by animal shelters.”

In 2006, Kuzmanov said, “Two different proposed Animal Protection Acts were drafted. The essential part of both was prohibition of killing healthy cats and dogs for population control. Yet no adequate measures provided for curbing breeding.”

Animal Programs in January 2007 brought the perceived deficiencies in the legislation to the attention of the European Union’s Parliamentary Intergroup for Animal Welfare. The Parliamentary Intergroup “sent six identical letters to all of the Bulgarian institutions involved in improving and enforcing the law,” Kuzmanov recounted. The letters recommended improvements which were not made.

“In June 2007 the authors of the two bills combined them into one, but still left in the shortcomings,” Kuzmanov said, citing lack of differential licensing to discourage breeding, insufficient accountability for dogcatchers, and lack of effective penalties for noncompliance.

T-61 debate resurfaces in Serbia

BELGRADE, NOVI SAD—Mid-summer 2007 festivals in Belgrade and Novi Sad, Serbia, became pretexts for street dog pogroms, reported journalists and animal advocates Jelena Zaric and Jelena Tinska.

Zaric, a frequent source for **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in recent years, forwarded coverage from a variety of media of dog captures in advance of the Youth Olympics in Belgrade. City veterinarian Milivoje Lazic acknowledged killing dogs with the paralytic drug T-61, and claimed that the killing method was approved by the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

Tinska, an actress, talk show host, author, and reporter who may be the most prominent vegetarian in Serbia, alleged that the 2007 Novi Sad music festival will put mayor Maja Gojkovic into history as “the biggest animal killer” in the history of the city.

“Stray dogs have been killed by having detergent injected straight to their hearts or by being buried alive,” Tinska wrote.

Informed of the reports by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, WSPA director general Peter Davies wrote to Gojkovic to express “severe welfare objections to these culls,” if they occurred as Tinska described, and offered WSPA help in “implementing a humane stray management program.”

Davies mentioned that “Mass sterilisation of owned animals can be done at cost” to prevent stray populations from growing.

WSPA companion animals program director Sarah Vallentine wrote that “The WSPA guidelines on humane euthanasia of

dogs and cats state that the use of T-61 for euthanasia is acceptable, but with strict caveats. T-61 should never be used without prior anesthesia. The drug must only be administered very slowly, by intravenous injection. The animal must be sufficiently sedated to allow slow, precise, injection.

“The drug should not be used if there is a more acceptable alternative,” Vallentine stipulated. “WSPA recommends sodium pentobarbitone by intravenous injection. The operator must be suitably trained and skilled.

“If any of these cannot be guaranteed,” Vallentine said, “the use of T-61 is totally unacceptable. T-61 is mixture of three drugs,” Vallentine explained. “It contains a local anesthetic, a barbiturate derivative that renders the animal unconscious, and a chloroform-like agent causing muscle paralysis. Death results from asphyxia following paralysis of the respiratory muscles. If T-61 is administered without prior analgesia, or too quickly, intense pain may result due to paralysis before loss of consciousness.

“Because of this risk,” Vallentine elaborated, “there is disagreement amongst the veterinary community as to the acceptability of T-61. It is not accepted by the American Veterinary Medical Association and Humane Society of the U.S., and is no longer produced or licensed in the United States. It is, however, still legal in the United Kingdom and Europe, and is widely used in a number of European countries where barbiturates are hard to come by, as in Serbia.”

U.S. shelter toll drops to 3.7 million dogs & cats (from page 18)

most often adopted in New York City and Los Angeles. Despite several high-profile failures of pit bull adoption programs in the 1990s, many other cities are now trying similar approaches, based on checklists of behavior that can be taken into a courtroom more persuasively than the intuitive and subjective opinions of animal handlers.

Currently, U.S. shelters kill about 1.4 million dogs per year, including about 750,000 pit bulls and close mixes of pit bull.

While fewer pit bulls are dying in U.S. shelters, the cat toll is rising again for the first time since neuter/return feral cat control caught on in 1991-1992. Across the U.S., the shelter toll is now 63% cats, 37% dogs—the most lopsided that it has ever been.

Tweety & Sylvester

The 2006 projected total of 2.3 million cats killed in shelters represents an increase of about 300,000 from the level of the preceding several years,

Yet this is not because there are more cats at large. Repeatedly applying various different yardsticks to measure the U.S. feral cat population, including shelter data, roadkill counts, and surveys of cat feeders, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has found since 2003 that the projections consistently converge on estimates of about six million feral cats at large in the dead of winter, with about twice that many after the early summer peak of “kitten season.” This is down by more than 75% from the feral cat population of circa 1990, which was up by about a third from the total indicated in the studies done by John Marbanks in 1947-1950.

Data collected for the National Council on Pet Population Study indicates that the U.S. pet cat population has not reproduced in excess of self-replacement since approximately 1994. The marked increase in the U.S. pet cat population over this time, from just over 60 million to about 90 million, has been driven by adoptions of feral cats—mostly feral-born kittens. Kitten removals from the feral population, together with neuter/return, has reduced feral cat reproductive capacity to substantially less than replacement. Taking feral cats’ places are other mid-sized predators including growing populations of urban and suburban coyotes, foxes, bobcats, hawks, owls, and eagles.

But intolerance of free-roaming cats, especially feral cats, is the longtime official policy of all U.S. federal government agencies,

as well as many state agencies responsible for managing property where feral cats formerly dwelled. Under intense pressure from birders and conservationists trying to save endangered species of birds and small mammals, federal and state agencies have intensified efforts to extirpate feral cats.

Organized opposition to neuter/return feral cat management before 2003 came chiefly from the Humane Society of the U.S. and PETA, which held that feral cats were suffering and should therefore be killed to end their misery, and the American Bird Conservancy, a relatively small organization that originated as a project of the World Wildlife Fund. Soon thereafter, HSUS adopted policies favoring carefully managed neuter/return—but in April 2003 the National Wildlife Federation membership magazine *National Wildlife* came out strongly against neuter/return. Only The Nature Conservancy, whose policy is to extirpate all nonnative species from their land holdings if possible, has more influence among U.S. wildlife policymakers.

Feral cat colony caretakers have often not helped their cause by maintaining colonies near sensitive wildlife habitats, and by not sterilizing enough cats, fast enough, to reduce the visible population to none within the three-to-five-year average lifespan of a feral cat who survives kittenhood.

Cape May, New Jersey, for example, has has an active neuter/return network since 1992, encouraged by animal control chief John Queenan. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** mentioned the Cape May project as a model for other communities in 1993. But Cape May is perhaps the most frequented resting and feeding area for migratory birds along the entire Atlantic flyway. Many visiting species are in decline, including the tiny red knot, which flies each year all the way from the Antarctic to the Arctic and back. Cape May is also among the nesting habitats of the endangered piping plover.

The Cape May economy is driven by birders’ visits. When Cape May still had an estimated 500 feral cats in 2003, ten years into the neuter/return program, the city allowed neuter/return advocates to maintain 10 cat feeding stations and weather shelters, but the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service began demanding that feral cat feeding be ended.

Many cats were removed from sensitive areas and housed in two trailers, one belonging to Cape May Animal Control and

the other to Animal Outreach of Cape May County, the primary local cat rescue group since 1995. On May 19, 2007, however, the trailers caught fire, killing 37 cats.

Cape May is currently considering withdrawing support for neuter/return and prohibiting feeding cats outdoors.

A similar situation may have a happier outcome on Big Pine Key, Florida, home of the endangered Hefner rabbit, *Sylvilagus palustris hefneri*. The rabbit was named for *Playboy* magazine founder Hugh Hefner after he funded the study that put it on the U.S. endangered species list more than 20 years ago. Blaming feral cats for a catastrophic collapse in rabbit numbers at the National Key Deer Refuge, refuge manager Anne Morkill in June 2007 announced that the cats would be trapped and taken to animal control shelters, where they would probably be killed. Hefner then donated \$5,000 to Stand Up For Animals, whose founder, Linda Gottwald, told Stephanie Garry of the *St. Petersburg Times* that she would use the funding to sterilize and relocate as many of the cats as possible.

Among the regional variations of note in the 2007 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** roundup of shelter killing data are that the dog/cat balance is 72/28 in the Northeast, 65/35 in the Midwest, 63/35 in the Mid-Atlantic region, and 60/40 along the West Coast, but is 54/46 in the South, where intakes and killing of both dogs and cats are highest. Among the possible explanations are that Southern animal control agencies may put more emphasis on picking up dogs, and that communities with more dogs at large tend to have fewer feral cats.

Virginia and Florida data, however, more resembles the data from the rest of the U.S., reflecting the demographic influences of Washington D.C. and migration to Florida from other parts of the country.

Midwest progress

The Midwest has made the most impressive recent gains, almost catching up to the West Coast in reduction of dog and cat overpopulation through high-volume low-cost sterilization. Many of the most ambitious dog-and-cat sterilization projects started within the past decade are in the Midwest, including Pets Are Worth Saving, founded by Paula Fasseas in Chicago, and the Foundation Against Companion Animal Euthanasia, founded by Scott Robinson, M.D., in Indianapolis.

A global veterinary shortage is espe-

cially acute in the Midwest, where organizations including the Michigan Humane Society, based in Detroit, and M’Shoogy’s Animal Rescue, near Kansas City, have at times had to cut back services simply because they could not find vets to fill their open positions.

The same problem afflicts the Appalachian states, where progress achieved in the 1990s has largely been lost, most markedly in Knoxville. Handling both city and county animal control sheltering out of a World War II-vintage Quonset hut, and operating a major local dog and cat sterilization program, the Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley had reduced shelter killing to 24.5 dogs and cats per 1,000 humans by 1999—well above the then-national average of 16.6, but among the best records in the South.

A coalition of local no-kill rescue groups then convinced Knoxville officials that a city-and-county-run shelter working cooperatively with them could operate on less money and save more animals. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** warned at the time that Knoxville could not realistically try to achieve no-kill sheltering until the animal control intake volume fell by at least half. Instead of lowering the shelter toll, the first five years of animal control under the new agency saw shelter killing increase by 22%.

Regions quit counting

A frustrating aspect of the 2007 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** shelter toll analysis is that while we received enough data from both the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions to project reliable totals and trends by comparison to past data, including the dog/cat balance, no individual or agency relayed complete enough new data from cities other than New York City and Philadelphia—the biggest cities in those regions—for us to list totals for any others.

This is markedly different from the first years of our annual updates, when the most complete counts we received were from the New England states, New York, New Jersey, and Maryland.

As shelter killing rates in those states have stabilized at very low levels, many of the agencies that formerly collected shelter tolls appear to have refocused on collecting information about adoption transport programs, a very small part of shelter activity 15 years ago, but now the source of half or more of the animals many shelters offer for adoption.

—Merritt Clifton

U.S. animal shelter data broken down by city, county, state, and region

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed	Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed	Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed			
New York City	2.0	2007	8,143	16,489	Mission Viejo, CA	1.0	2005	166	113	Terre Haute	4.6	2005	169	78
NORTHEAST (24%)	1.7		33,495	56,857	Santa Cruz Cty, CA	2.0	2005	251	5,000	Milwaukee	4.8	2005	1,700	8,162
NEW JERSEY	4.7	2005	8,725	40,706	San Francisco	2.2	2005	744	1,646	Chicago	6.9	2005	2,869	19,706
Philadelphia	19.9	2006	1,448	28,774	Snohomish Cty, WA	4.7	2005	639	3,000	MICHIGAN	11.7	2006	10,096	117,919
MID-ATLANTIC (33%)	7.3		30,759	225,116	Santa Barbara	5.0	2004	403	2,002	Indianapolis	18.5	2005	783	14,444
Broward County	7.3	2006	1,788	13,000	San Diego	5.9	2004	2,931	17,421	Winnebago Cty, IL	19.2	2004	284	5,449
Richmond, VA	8.3	2006	194	1,615	Tehama County, CA	6.8	2006	62	421	Kansas City, KS	21.6	2004	158	3,412
West Palm Beach	13.5	2005	1,216	16,411	Los Angeles	7.2	2006	9,948	71,357	Oklahoma City	22.2	2004	677	15,000
Palm Beach County	15.5	2006	1,288	20,000	Portland/Multnomah	7.2	2005	673	4,841	Fort Wayne, IN	28.6	2004	340	9,724
VIRGINIA	17.5	2005	7,568	132,400	Silicon Valley	8.5	2005	1,668	14,097	Athens, OH	46.6	2004	64	3,000
Alachua Cty, FL	18.2	2006	224	4,071	OREGON	8.9	2005	3,641	32,235					
Orlando/Orange Cty	18.6	2005	1,023	19,000	Eugene, OR	10.1	2005	336	3,378	MIDWEST (27%)	11.5		63,810	733,815
Tampa area	19.9	2006	2,489	49,557	WASHINGTON [prjtd]	11.1	2005	6,132	68,054	Nashville, TN	18.9	2004	511	9,647
Tallahassee	22.4	2004	239	5,350	Merced Cty, CA	12.2	2006	246	3,011	Chattanooga	22.5	2004	307	6,918
Duval County	22.6	2006	826	18,672	Lodi, CA	13.9	2005	57	788	Knoxville	29.9	2006	405	12,090
Coweta Cty, GA	22.6	2004	101	2,288	Monterey County, CA	14.4	2006	412	5,912	Spartanburg TN	32.8	2004	261	8,562
NORTH CAROLINA	27.9	2005	8,683	242,935	Lindsay/Porterville	14.6	2005	56	817	Louisville	42.9	2005	700	30,000
Columbia, SC	37.0	2004	332	12,275	Visalia, CA	15.5	2006	420	6,521					
Polk County, FL	40.3	2005	511	20,566	Kern County, CA	20.4	2006	780	15,922	APPALACHIA (17%)	30.1		12,915	388,742
Augusta, GA	45.3	2004	198	8,967	Douglas County	24.0	2005	104	2,519	U.S. TOTAL	12.5		296,410	3,696,160
Orangeburg Cty, SC	49.5	2006	91	4,500	Valley Oak, CA	25.4	2005	210	5,336					
SO. ATLANTIC (56%)	22.3		47,368	1,021,048	Bakersfield, CA	26.2	2005	644	16,904					
Dallas	10.8	2005	2,306	25,000	Kings County, CA	27.2	2005	147	4,013					
Dallas/FtWorth rgn	14.2	2005	5,753	82,000	Clovis, CA	27.5	2005	90	2,471					
Austin/Travis Cty.	17.4	2005	888	15,411	Modesto	30.5	2004	489	14,903					
Houston	22.2	2004	3,596	80,000	Madera County, CA	35.2	2005	144	5,071					
Birmingham	23.8	2005	818	19,438	Tulare Cty, CA	40.3	2005	154	6,203					
Fort Worth	24.9	2005	603	15,000	Fresno, CA	42.3	2005	787	33,255					
Conroe area, TX	26.8	2006	378	10,120	PACIFIC (64%)	11.0		48,000	528,000					
Lafayette, LA	28.0	2004	195	5,439										
Mobile	30.1	2005	401	12,071										
Tuskaloosa, AL	30.1	2006	169	4,982										
El Paso, TX	31.4	2004	700	22,000										
Gulfport	31.8	2006	194	6,16										
Baldwin County, AL	33.3	2006	163	5,432										
Blount County, AL	38.6	2006	56	2,153										
San Marcos	43.9	2004	43	1,888										
Shreveport/Caddo	48.0	2005	250	12,000										
Tupelo, MS	55.4	2006	78	4,320										
Longview, TX	70.8	2005	114	8,070										
GULF COAST (41%)	21.3		34,863	742,582										

U.S. progress vs. shelter killing


Year	Millions of dogs & cats killed	Killed per 1,000 humans
1970	23.4	115.0
1985	17.8	74.8
1997	4.9	21.1
1998	4.9	19.4
1999	4.5	16.6
2000	4.5	16.8
2001	4.4	15.7
2002	4.2	15.3
2003	4.5	14.8
2004	4.9	17.4
2005	4.4	14.8
2006	3.7	12.5

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A Naturalist & Other Beasts: Tales From A Life In The Field by *George B. Schaller*

Sierra Club Books (85 2nd St., San Francisco, CA 94105), 2007. 272 pages, hardcover. \$24.95.



The Emotional Lives of Animals by *Marc Bekoff*

New World Library (14 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94949), 2007. 214 pages, hardcover. \$23.95.

“I was fortunate to have been part of the golden age of wildlife studies, from the 1950s to the end of the 20th century, when many large mammals—even such familiar and spectacular ones as the elephant and jaguar—for the first time became the focus of intensive research,” writes George Schaller.

Schaller also had the good fortune to be hired in 1956 as a field biologist for the New York Zoological Society, and to work his way up as it grew into the Wildlife Conservation Society, for which he is now vice president and director of field operations.

Born in 1933, when Konrad Lorenz had barely begun to differentiate ethology from other approaches to studying animals, Schaller began his work at a time when behaviorism dominated scientific thinking about how animals think and feel. Anthropomorphism, or projecting human attributes into animal behavior, was a scientific cardinal sin.

Ethology was coming into vogue. Wildlife photography, film making, and the advent of television early in Schaller’s career developed new public interest in studying animals in their natural habitat. That meant more funding for field research, and a much larger audience for discoveries.

By the middle of Schaller’s career, the audience for wildlife documentaries had matured into the greater part of the donor base and voting constituency for wildlife conservation, previously a poor relative of managing wildlife to be hunted and fished.

The 19 essays forming *A Naturalist & Other Beasts* are individually a combination of wildlife observation and travelogue. Cumulatively, they are a series of snapshots in the evolution of the ethics of research, parallel to growing recognition that animal behavior exists, just as Charles Darwin postulated, in a continuum with our own.

Schaller seems to have mostly avoided the debate over what discoveries about animal intelligence mean—or should mean—to how humans treat animals. He left challenging the taboo against anthropomorphism to Jane Goodall and Dian Fossey, and left raising the major ethical questions to Donald Griffin, a much older scientist with formidable credentials in traditional laboratory observation.

Schaller insightfully discusses conflicts of values involved in conservation, but his chief discussion of ethical duties toward individual animals is in an author’s note appended to his chapter about observing Himalayan snow leopards. On the third of Schaller’s treks to the Himalayas, he was accompanied by the author Peter Matthiessen, who based *The Snow Leopard*

(1973) on their journey.

“I was, and still am, ambivalent about providing a snow leopard with live bait,” Schaller writes. “I checked the goats twice a day to make certain that they remained fed and watered and were not distressed; they lacked only companionship. I could have offered dead baits, as it still done by hunters for lions and leopards, but that would have caused the death of goats needlessly. Most of the live goats were not discovered by a snow leopard in the few days they were tied out, and their was little chance that a cat would find a goat carcass before it was stripped by vultures. Furthermore, my heart is with the rare markhor, not the locust-like domestic goat. Each meal of a domestic goat eaten by a snow leopard saved the life of a markhor.”

Between staking out goats to attract leopards, Schaller and Matthiessen bunked at Tibetan Buddhist monasteries, but whatever they learned about reverence for all life does not seem to have trumped ideas about species conservation that assign greater moral value to scarcity, rather than the capacity to suffer.

Marc Bekoff, 12 years younger than Schaller, nine years younger than Goodall, initially did similar field studies, but eventually moved from documenting what animals do

to analyzing how and why. Often partnering with Goodall in recent projects, Bekoff tends to be identified with a much younger generation of scientists, ethicists, and activists.

“Basically, I am an animal rights advocate/activist with deep concerns about all animals, plants, bodies of water, the air we breathe, outer space, and inanimate landscapes,” Bekoff wrote in a recent autobiographical statement. “I am a vitalist and see and feel life in everything, animate and inanimate...I am a vegetarian. I eat a few animal products minimally, and strive to eliminate all animal products as time goes on. My reasons for vegetarianism are ethical and not health related,” although Bekoff—even in his sixties—is a formidable bicyclist and runner.

The Emotional Lives of Animals, already perhaps Bekoff’s most influential book, is less entertaining than Schaller’s anecdotes, more argumentative, copiously footnoted, and addresses much that Schaller might have seen, and in some cases even documented, without actually perceiving.

“The plural of anecdote,” Bekoff often argues, “is data.” His dispute with the scientific establishment is with a self-protective scientific tendency to selectively and sometimes unconsciously exclude from analy-

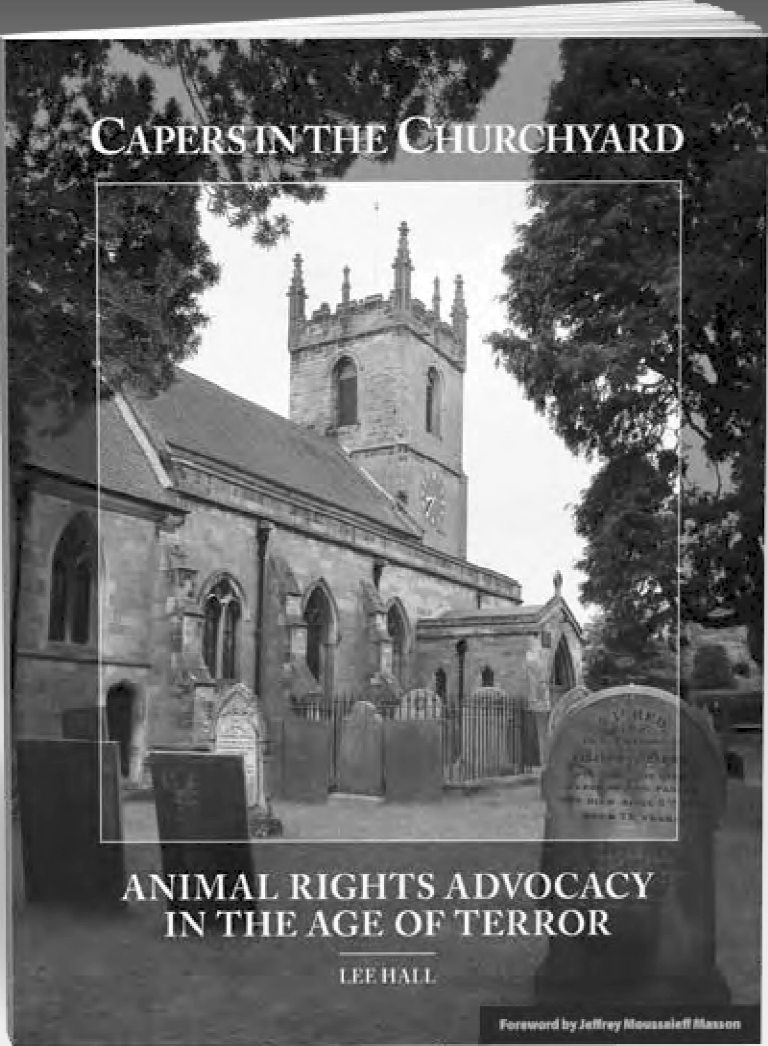
sis any observations that may call into question key presumptions about why and how the studies are being done in the first place.

For example, Bekoff would point out that Schaller’s ambivalence about staking out the goats is a behavioral observation. Why was Schaller uneasy? Why does he feel compelled to rationalize the ethics of his action? Why does he retreat behind an argument based on scarcity, which if extended one step farther would suggest that since humans are more numerous than goats, Schaller himself might have made the most appropriate leopard bait?

Schaller’s feelings were an emotional response. Scientists trained to exclude their emotional responses from their observations tend to miss much information. In Schaller’s case, his feelings about staking out the goats might have furnished far more material for study than his few glimpses of snow leopards—if he had allowed himself to pursue that line of thought.

The Emotional Lives of Animals explains, basically, that we know animals have feelings similar to ours for many reasons, not least that we often respond to the feelings that animals project, and are rewarded by responses similar to what ours would be if the roles were reversed. —Merritt Clifton

*Lively
and
Agile*



*A Timely and
Comprehensive
Critique of
'Eco-terrorism'*

**A tour of radical activism,
with key insights for sorting
progressive from reactionary tactics**

Can our planet be saved through fear and violence? Activists who think so are zeroing in on enterprises coast to coast, country to country – with ever-burgeoning law enforcement units in hot pursuit.

Morris Dees, co-founder, Southern Poverty Law Center, calls *Capers in the Churchyard* “a beautifully written book that lays out an ethical animal rights activist’s vision of a world without violence and offers a comprehensive critique of the ‘eco-terrorism’ of recent years.”

The book’s lively and agile analysis of the interplay between militancy and increased police power will appeal to anyone interested in the dynamic of ethical movements, especially those hoping to define the advocate’s best role in addressing the urgent questions of our age.

By Lee Hall, with a Foreword by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson. Published by Nectar Bat Press. \$14.95. Available now from Friends of Animals www.friendsofanimals.org and internationally through Amazon.com.

**Michigan Supreme Court
upholds city hunting ban**

LANSING—The Michigan Supreme Court on June 20, 2007 ruled 4-3 that cities have the right to ban the use of firearms and archery equipment within their limits.

“While the Department of Natural Resources enjoys exclusive authority to regulate taking game,” the majority held, “there is no indication that the legislative grant of authority to regulate taking game is superior to or supercedes the authority to regulate the discharge of weapons.”

Saginaw resident Michael Czymbor brought the case, backed by the Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

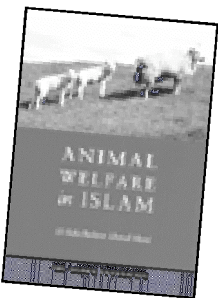
Animal Welfare In Islam

by *Al-Hafiz Basheer Ahmad Masri*

The Islamic Foundation & Compassion In World Farming, 2007. (The Islamic Foundation: Markfield Conf. Centre, Rathby Lane, Markfield, Leicestershire, LE67 9SY, U.K.; <www.islamic-foundation.org.uk>;

CIWF: 5-A Charles St., Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3EH, U.K.; <www.ciwf.org.uk/>.)

164 pages, paperback £9.95, hardback £15.95.



Animal Welfare In Islam is an updated and corrected edition of *Islamic Concern for Animals*, originally issued in 1987 by the Athene Trust, the original name of Compassion In World Farming.

Considered the definitive work so far on the obligations that religious Muslims should observe toward animals, the first edition included both English and Arabic texts. The new edition is only in English.

Key excerpts have been accessible at <www.islamicconcern.com/-islamicteachings.pdf>, but the whole text had been out of print and hard to find for more than a decade.

Similar commentaries are now emerging from various scholars around the world, but the contributions of B.A. Masri (1914-1993) are especially of note. His honorific, “Al-Hafiz,” signifies that he had memorized the entire Quran. After a long teaching career, Masri edited the monthly *Islamic Review*, 1961-1967, visited and spoke in more than 40 chiefly Muslim nations, and was a well-known lecturer and broadcast commentator on Islamic affairs.

“The Islamic instruction and guidance on animal rights and man’s obligations concerning them are so comprehensive that he need not go elsewhere for any guidance,” al Masri prefaced.

“As believers in the consummate and conclusive revelation of God,” Masri continued, “we are expected to learn from the misconceptions of the past and cast behind us the parochial approach to religion. Fourteen centuries is a long enough period to grasp mentally the fact that the way to spiritual development (*Dîn*) does not lie in ritualistic observance and the hair-splitting of the Law (*Sharâh*). Surely it is a long enough period to liberate ourselves from the pre-Islamic traits of our respective cultures.

“Not to be cruel or even to be condescendingly kind to the so-called inferior animals is a negative proposition,” al Masri asserted. “Islam wants us to think and act in the positive terms of accepting all species as communities like us in their own right, and not to sit in judgment on them according to our human norms and values.” —Merritt Clifton

ANIMAL LAWS OF INDIA

edited by *Maneka Gandhi, Ozair Husain, & Raj Panjwani*

Third Edition

Universal Law Publishing Co. (c/o <sales@unilawbooks.com> or <www.unilawbooks.com>), 2006. 1,236 pages, hardcover. 995 rupees (about \$22.00) plus shipping.

Indian animal advocates often claim that India has the laws most favorable to animals of any nation, and the most favorable courts at the upper appellate levels.

Thus Indian animal advocacy tends to emphasize improving enforcement and trying to move as expeditiously as possible through often incompetent and corrupt local courts to reach the upper levels. This distinctly contrasts with the emphasis of activism in the U.S., where seeking passage of new laws generates many times as many appeals and e-mails as seeking enforcement—although activity on behalf of stronger humane law enforcement has increased exponentially since the advent of Alison Gianotto’s enforcement-oriented web site <www.Pet-Abuse.com>.

Animal Laws of India (Third Edition) includes all the major animal protection laws of India and individual Indian states under one cover, with summaries of the most important court precedents and instructions on how to pursue cases using each law.

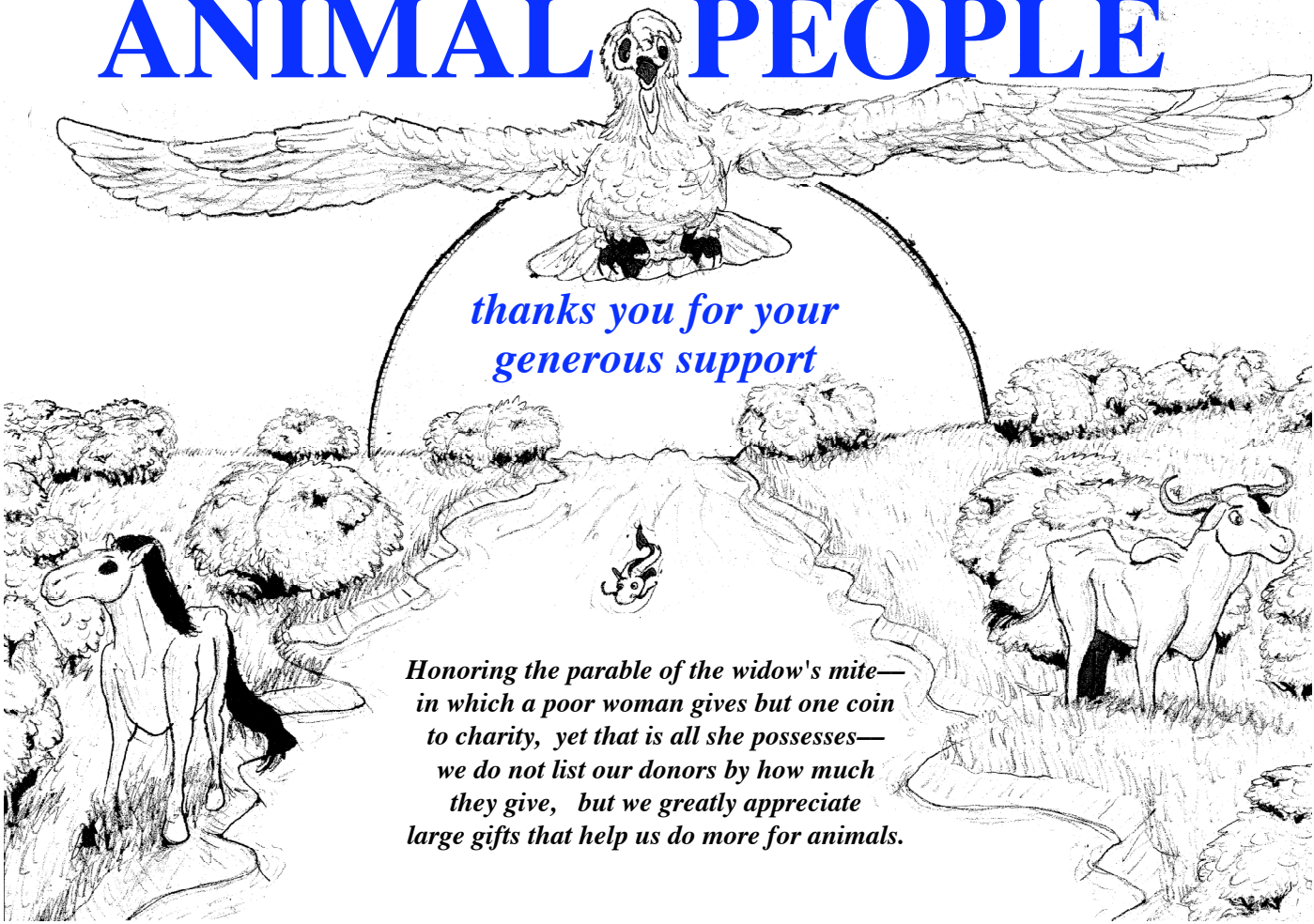
The intent of editors Maneka Gandhi, Ozair Husain, and Raj Panjwani is to help local humane societies to bring prosecu-

tions against animal abusers. Including the laws of each state is worthwhile because many common offenses involve transporting livestock or wildlife from one state to another. At times there can be significant advantages to prosecuting a case in one of several different possible venues. *Animal Laws of India* can help law enforcers decide where, for instance, to intercept a trainload of cattle en route to illegal slaughter.

Animal Laws of India also enables people trying to draft or pass legislation in other nations to see what has succeeded in India—or, in some cases, has won passage without being enforceable. Some of the legislative topics are specific to Indian culture and customs, but many others occur throughout the world. While western nations, for instance, have not had to deal with donkey-trains and bullock carts in more than a century, the relevant Indian legislation could be helpful in Africa and Latin America.

The heft of *Animal Laws of India* is worth a mention. If one is going to “throw the book” at an offender, this one could have a substantial impact. —Merritt Clifton

ANIMAL PEOPLE



Honoring the parable of the widow's mite—in which a poor woman gives but one coin to charity, yet that is all she possesses—we do not list our donors by how much they give, but we greatly appreciate large gifts that help us do more for animals.

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Chosen By A Horse:

How a broken horse fixed a broken heart

by Susan Richards

Harvest Books
(c/o Harcourt Inc.,
(15 E. 26th St., New
York, NY 10010),
2007. 248 pages,
paperback. \$13.00.



Never before interested in adopting sick or injured animals, Susan surprised herself by responding to an appeal for help from her local SPCA.

Having lost her mother at a very early age, moving from one unhappy relative to yet another one during her childhood, and having then endured an abusive marriage, Susan was too concerned with her own problems to take care of sick or abused animals.

The SPCA had confiscated 40 horses, all starving and in poor health. Among them was Lay Me Down, an ex-racing mare who, after a few defeats, had been used for breeding. Susan chose to adopt her, along with her frisky foal, for no better reason than that she was the only horse willing to walk up the ramp and go into the trailer for Susan, with her foal at her side.

Desperately thin, and drooping from pneumonia, Lay Me Down was a shadow of her past beauty. But right away she began teaching Susan some lessons in life.

“Unlike me, Lay Me Down seemed to feel no rancor. In spite of everything, she was open and trusting of people, qualities I decidedly lacked. It was her capacity to engage that drew me to her, that made me aware of what was possible for me if I had her capacity to—to what? Forgive? Forget? Live in the moment? What exactly was it that enabled an abused animal, for lack of a better word, to love again?”

Lay Me Down settles down well on Susan’s farm, and from the start, showed more affection toward Susan than any of her other three horses, whom she had kept for many years. All went well for a while.

Then one day, Allie, “my best friend and horsewoman extraordinaire,” visited Susan and inspected Lay Me Down closely, before advising Susan to get a veterinarian to check the horse’s eye.

The vet discovered an inoperable tumor. In enduring the heartbreaking ordeal of treatment and death, Susan also dealt with her own dark memories. —Beverley Pervan

OBITUARIES

Dietrich von Haugwitz, 79, died on June 26, 2007 at his home in Durham, North Carolina. Von Haugwitz, credited by Peter Muller of Wildlife Watch as “the originator of computer-based animal rights e-mail lists,” was “born into a German aristocratic family in Silesia,” Muller wrote, “a region that became part of Poland after the shift of borders at the end of World War II.” Drafted into the Germany army at age 17, near the end of World War II, von Haugwitz “saw little action, but once almost got killed” by a British air attack, recalled Muller. Post-war, von Haugwitz studied music. A church in Minnesota sponsored his emigration to the U.S. in 1956. Moving to Hollywood, California, in 1957, he worked as a pianist, gave piano lessons, and met his wife Eva while acting in a German theater. They married in 1960. Turning from piano-playing to computer programming, they relocated to North Carolina in 1971. Witnessing a bullfight in Mexico and attending a lecture by *The Case for Animal Rights* author Tom Regan led von Haugwitz to join the North Carolina Network for Animals in 1983, and to found a Durham chapter, which he headed for about seven years. Recalled von Haugwitz to *Eternal Trebinka* author Charles Patterson, “I have always been upset about so many Germans I knew who, at the end of the war, said, in effect, ‘But we had no idea! We really didn’t know anything about Auschwitz and what happened to the Jews.’” Von Haugwitz paralleled their denial to the denial that allows people to eat meat. His last campaign was against dog-chaining, and included winning custody of Bessie, a neglected dog who had lived her whole life on a six-foot chain until von Haugwitz adopted her. Eva von Haugwitz died in 2003. Von Haugwitz is survived by their daughter Joanne Erznosnik, of North Carolina. As she works for much of the year abroad, In Defense of Animals was at the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** deadline trying to help her find a new home for Bessie.

Viji, 54, founder of the Paraspam orphanage and shelter in Chennai, died of cardiac arrest on July 26, 2007. At her death the shelter housed 24 girls, 36 cats, and 11 dogs. “An ardent devotee of Saint Sai Baba of Shirdi, she passed on on Baba’s Day,” noted Cattitude Trust managing trustee Devika Khazvini.

Colleen McCrory, 57, died from brain cancer on July 1, 2007 in New Denver, British Columbia. McCrory founded the Valhalla Wilderness Society in 1975, coordinated the B.C. Environmental Network from 1989 to 1990, founded Canada’s Future Forest Alliance in 1991, and ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the British Columbia legislature in 2001, representing the Green Party. “I knew Colleen for more than three decades. Colleen was a longtime supporter of Sea Shepherd and a good friend,” recalled Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson.

There is no better way to remember animals or animal people than with an ANIMAL PEOPLE memorial. Send donations (any amount), with address for acknowledgement, if desired, to
P.O. Box 960
Clinton, WA 98236-0960

Bernard Epps, 71, died on July 4, 2007 in Kingston, Ontario. Born in Whitstable, Kent, England, Epps arrived in the U.S. with his family in 1950, and spent his teens living on the farm where his father was hired hand. Attending the School of Visual Arts in New York City, “He was greatly influenced by Jack Kerouac, the Beat poets, jazz music, and Eastern philosophies,” recalled daughter Jennifer Epps. Emigrating to Quebec in 1966, a year after marrying Susan Prospers, Epps authored and edited seven books on historical subjects, cofounded the *Townships Sun* newspaper, and was a prolific historical feature writer and humor columnist for the *Sherbrooke Record*. At both the *Sun* and the *Record*, Epps frequently wove pro-animal themes into his subjects, addressing vivisection, pound seizure, factory farming, kangaroo hunting in Australia, grizzly bear hunting, turkey hunting, and the confinement of animals in zoos. Epps also encouraged his daughter to found the first animal rights organization at Alexander Galt Regional High School, the only English-language high school in the eastern half of Quebec. Epps at both the *Sun* and the *Record* encouraged **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton, then a feature writer for the *Sun* and farm-and-business reporter for the *Record*, to pursue animal-related subjects, introduced Clifton to many sources who are now frequent sources for **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and defended Clifton from influential critics who “accused you of journalism.”

Neil Lea, 49, died on July 10, 2007 in Shropshire, England, from complications of spina bifida. “In the early 1990s Neil founded the Animal Rights Coalition to bring together grassroots activists from around the U.K.,” remembered Captive Animals Protection Society campaigns manager Craig Redmond. “In more recent years Neil, with his wife Mary and son Seamus, sparked the revolution of vegan free food fairs, extremely successful at promoting a cruelty-free diet. As he became less able to physically get around, Neil used the Internet to spread the vegan message. His pioneering Vegan Buddies scheme, <www.veganbuddies.org.uk/>, paired those wanting to go vegan but unsure about nutrition, vegan foods etc, with experienced vegans, and won the Vegan Society’s ‘best campaign’ award. Other websites he founded include <www.isitvegan.info/> and <www.realfood.org.uk/>. Neil was so passionate about promoting veganism to save animals’ lives and promote good health that he was even converting patients and doctors during his many hospital stays.”

Norm Maleng, 68, died on May 24, 2007. “In 1994, after a donkey named Pasado was brutally tortured and killed by teenage thugs,” recalled longtime Seattle area activist Lisa Wathne, Maleng in his capacity as King County prosecutor “joined the push to strengthen the state’s outdated anti-cruelty to animals laws. He recognized the horrific nature of these kinds of incidents and that such acts should be viewed as a red flag—that people who commit such acts are likely to commit such cruelty and crimes against humans.”

Kelsey Smith, 18, an animal advocate who planned to become a veterinarian, was on June 6, 2007 found dead near Grandview, Missouri, two days after a video camera captured her abduction from a parking lot. Edwin R. Hall, 26, a stranger to her, is charged with her kidnapping and murder.



—Wolf Clifton

Laurence Mancuso, 72, founding abbot of the Monks of New Skete, died on June 10, 2007 in Framingham, Massachusetts from complications of injuries suffered in a fall. With Brother Stavros Winner and four other monks, Mancuso in 1966 turned a small farm near Cambridge, New York, into the New Skete monastery. Originally affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church, the monastery later joined the Orthodox Church in America. Their first business was selling smoked meat by mail order, but in 1969 they began breeding and training German shepherds. Emphasizing constant human contact and kind treatment, their how-to volumes, *How To Be Your Dog’s Best Friend* (1978) and *The Art of Raising A Puppy* (1991), are in their 40th and 26th printings, respectively. Retiring from New Skete in 2000, Mancuso lived his last years in Natick, Massachusetts.

Bobby Dean Evans, 47, animal control officer in Bellmead, Texas, since 2000, was on June 18, 2007 fatally shot by an unknown assailant at the city animal shelter. The only witnesses were two impounded dogs and another he had just picked up. The Texas Animal Control Association has posted a reward of \$20,000 for information leading to the conviction of the killer. “He volunteered at Fuzzy Friends Animal Rescue in Waco on the weekends. And he would stop by the La Vega Veterinary Clinic during his lunch breaks — just in case they needed an extra hand,” remembered Waco *Tribune-Herald* staff writers Erin Quinn and Kathleen Thurber.

Bette Overell, who founded the New Zealand Anti-Vivisection Society in 1978 and served as president of it until 1993, died on August 11, 2007. Widely known for leading marches through Wellington on World Day for Laboratory Animals, Overell petitioned the New Zealand parliament seeking abolition of the LD-50 toxicity test in 1984, and seeking to ban all animal testing in 1989. After the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture distributed a book called *Animal Research Saves Lives* in 1990, Overell authored a rebuttal titled *Animal Research Takes Lives: Humans & Animals Both Suffer*.

Mark Eisner, 79, of Annapolis, died on May 10, 2007 in Washington, D.C., of complications from heart surgery. A World War II Navy veteran, Eisner later worked four years for the Central Intelligence Agency, and for 18 years owned two car dealerships. In 1970 Eisner opened The Gallery of Animal Art in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia. He relocated it to Annapolis a few years later, and closed it in 1993 due to health problems. He served on the SPCA of Anne Arundel County board of directors, founded a fund for veterinary care for animals of the indigent, and contributed to many animal charities.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Twink, Boomer, and Othello.
—Geri Rennhack

In memory of my cats who have passed on:
Schwartz, Mimi, ET, Haji Baba,
Yogi Bear. Love and hugs from mom.
—Judy Youngman

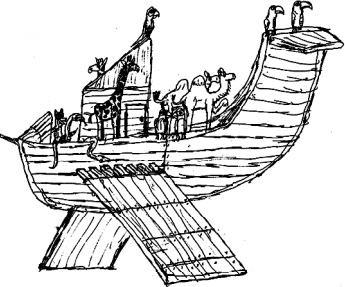
On the anniversary of my dad's passing:
he taught me never to compromise on goals.
His was to alleviate the suffering of animals.
—Viji Sundaram

In memory of my beautiful mom.
—Lindy Sobel

In memory of my husband Dave Parker,
who was western Washington editor of
Muttmatchers Messenger.
—Sandy Parker

In memory of Ollie, 14, beloved cat of
Cathy, Karl, & John Czapla.

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87),
Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87),
Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85),
Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98),
Purr Box, Jr. (5/1/04), Mylady (8/1/06),
Blackie (9/9/96), and Honey Boy (11/1/05).



Seeking killer of dolphin advocate

The St. Lucia government has hired nine British detectives to try to solve the August 2006 murder of dolphin advocate Patricia Lee, 60, London *Daily Telegraph* writers Paul Henderson and Richard Savill reported on May 14, 2007.

Lee, from Devon, England, moved to St. Lucia in 1994 to run a yacht charter business and restaurant with her boyfriend Bernard Haddican, who died in 2003.

“Lee’s body was found after she failed to turn up at a memorial service for the husband of a close friend,” Henderson and Savill wrote. “Two weeks after Lee’s disappearance an anonymous caller told police where to look for her. Within 24 hours her remains were found in a shallow grave.”

“Lee was a volunteer for the St. Lucia Animal Protection Society, an organization that had a member murdered three years ago,” Henderson and Savill noted. “Jane Tipson, found slumped over the wheel of her car after being shot in the neck, had feared for her life because she was protesting against the establishment of ‘swim with dolphins’ centers on the island. Her murder has never been solved.” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported in detail on the Tipson case in October 2003.

At least 74 people have been murdered on St. Lucia within the past two years, many of them believed to be victims of contract killings.

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The last thing we want is to lose our friends, but you can help continue our vital educational mission with a bequest to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**

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Animal People, Inc., PO Box 960, Clinton WA 98236

Ask for our free brochure *Estate Planning for Animal People*

Southern Regional Spay/Neuter Leadership Conference

September 13–16, 2007 • Memphis, Tennessee

Everyone welcome! Speakers and attendees from throughout the U.S.



If you have an interest in...

- spay/neuter programs or clinics
- mobile clinics, fixed site spay/neuter clinics or TNR programs
- spay/neuter within a traditional shelter or animal control agency

Or you...

- work in public health or other government agencies
- work in dog and cat rescue and adoption
- work in a veterinary hospital or clinic
- have an interest in statewide spay/neuter assistance networks

...this conference is for you!

Network with other spay/neuter advocates from within your state and around the country. Share your own experiences and learn from the success of others. Our goal is to help you gain a greater awareness of what it takes to build and strengthen a successful network of spay/neuter programs within your own region.

BASIC

Just beginning? Lots of questions? Learn from others' mistakes, get a general overview of how to get started

- Coalition building: It takes a village
- Budgeting, startup costs and legal requirements
- Jump starting your program
- Grant writing 101

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- Organizational/board development, expanding your program and cultivating major donors
- Advanced grant writing
- Expanding your program
- Overcoming barriers and burnout

VETERINARIANS – CONTINUING ED CREDITS

- Pediatric Wet Lab
- S/N on a shoestring budget
- Latest anesthesia techniques and working with ferals
- Nuts and bolts of starting and running a successful spay/neuter clinic



Speakers from:

Maddie's Fund
Humane Alliance
Pets Alive
SPAN Mississippi
AZ Cats
PETCO Foundation
PetsMart Charities
Two Mauds
And More...

Workshops featuring:

Fundraising
Grant Writing
Pediatric Spay/Neuter
Humane Alliance Model
Feral Cat Management
S/N Education Programs

Registration

Southern Regional SPAY/NEUTER Leadership Conference

One Registration Form Required Per Person. Sorry, no walk-ins please.

Name _____

Organization (if any) _____ Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (daytime) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

☐ I require Vegan Meals Sign me up as: ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Veterinarian*

Attendees may select individual, beginner or intermediate workshops as they sign in on Thursday

*C.E. for participation in the Veterinarian track is now pending; please contact us for information.

I want my name and contact information listed on the participation roster. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Early Bird Registration Fee (by July 15, 2007) \$125

Registration Fee (July 16 through September 1, 2007)..... \$135

☐ Enclosed is my check or money order made payable to SPAY/USA.

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express accepted.

Account No. _____

Exp. Date _____ Authorized Signature _____

Please send completed Registration Forms to:

SPAY/USA
2261 Broadbridge Avenue, Stratford, Connecticut 06614
Call: (203) 377-1116 or (800) 248-SPAY Fax: (203) 375-6627
E-mail: alwaysspay@aol.com Web: www.spayusa.org

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Hilton Memphis
939 Ridge Lake Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38120
1-800-445-8667
www.memphis.hilton.com

Special rates available if reserved by August 23, 2007.
Special rate code "S0913".

www.spayusa.org

1-800-248-SPAY

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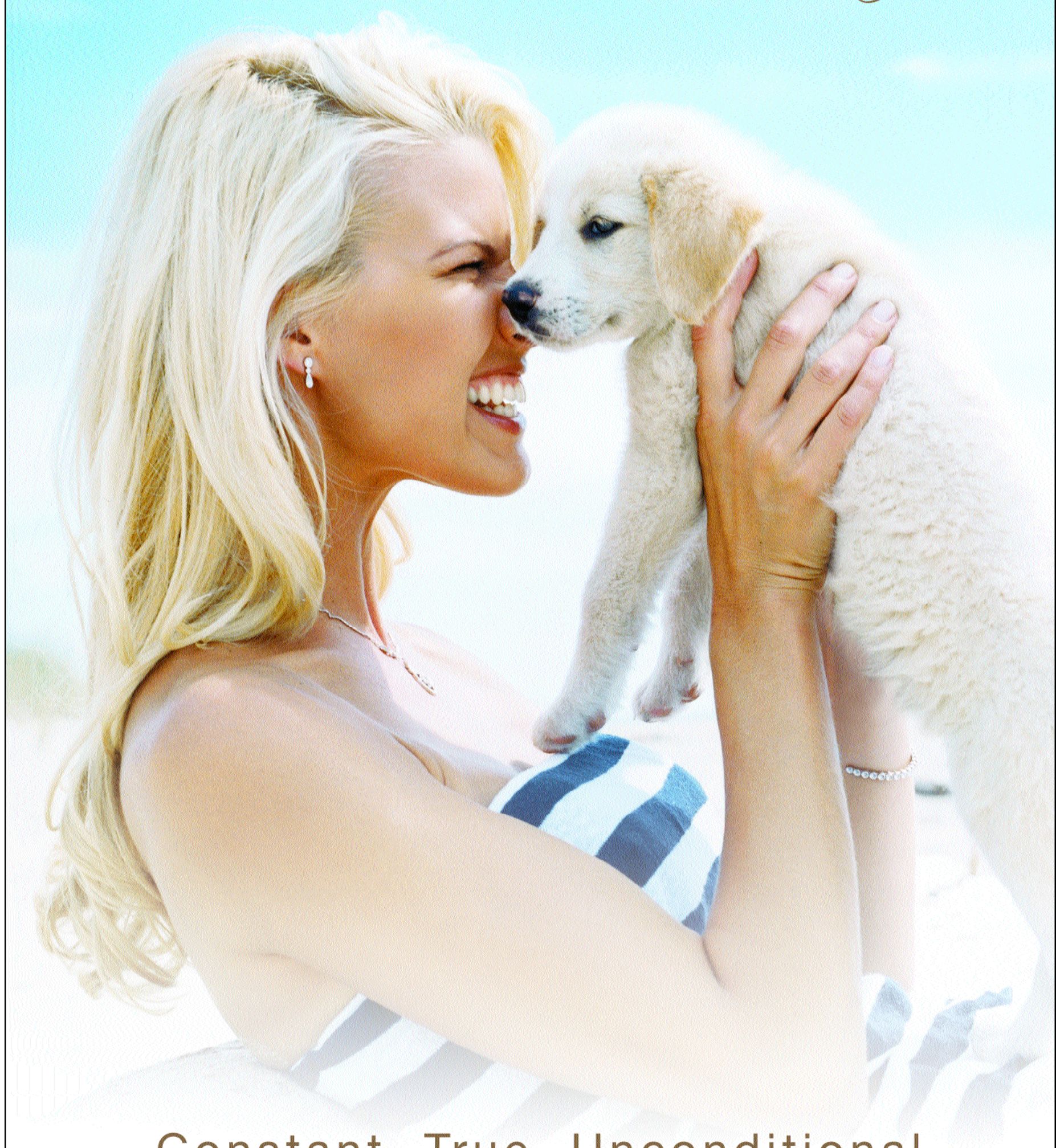


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